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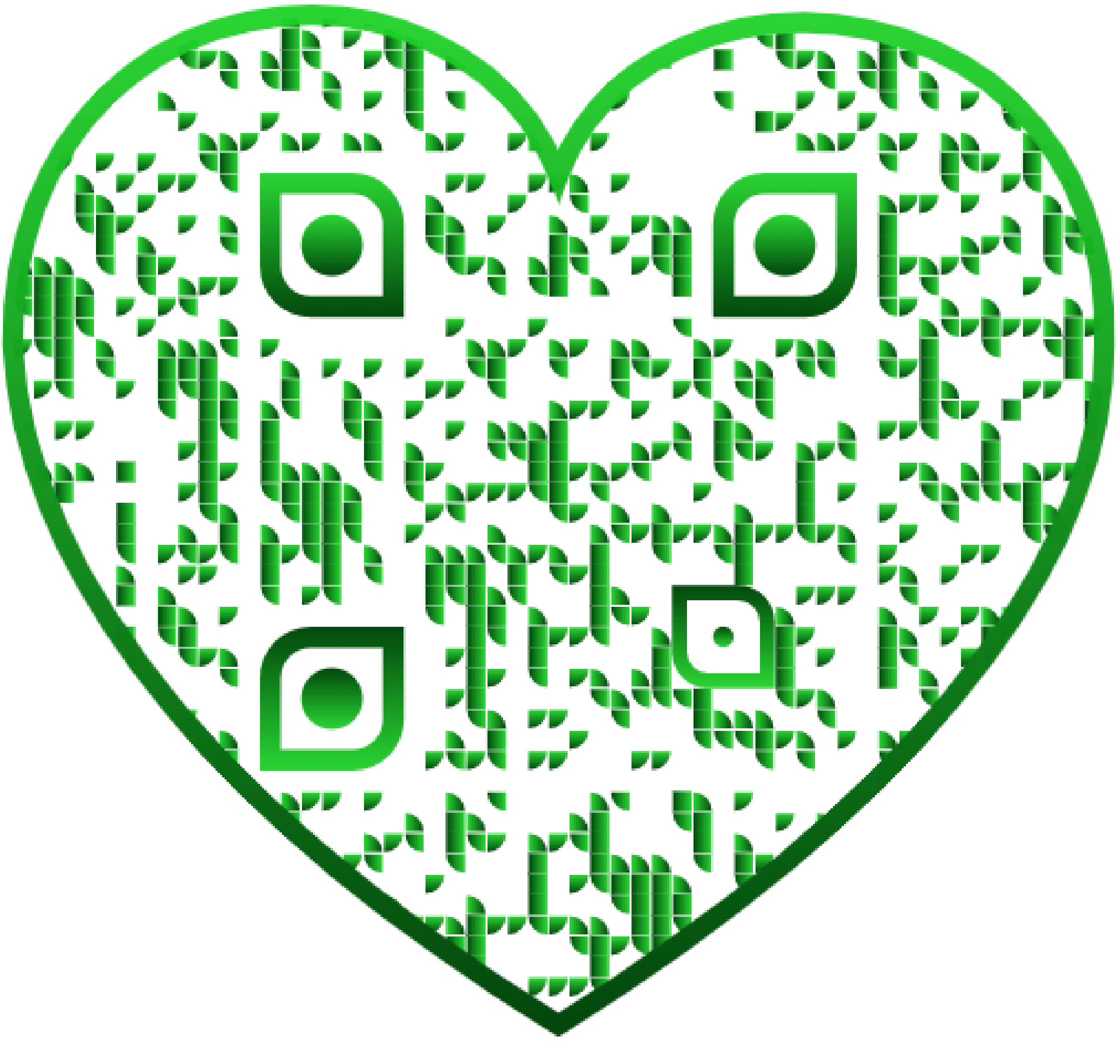

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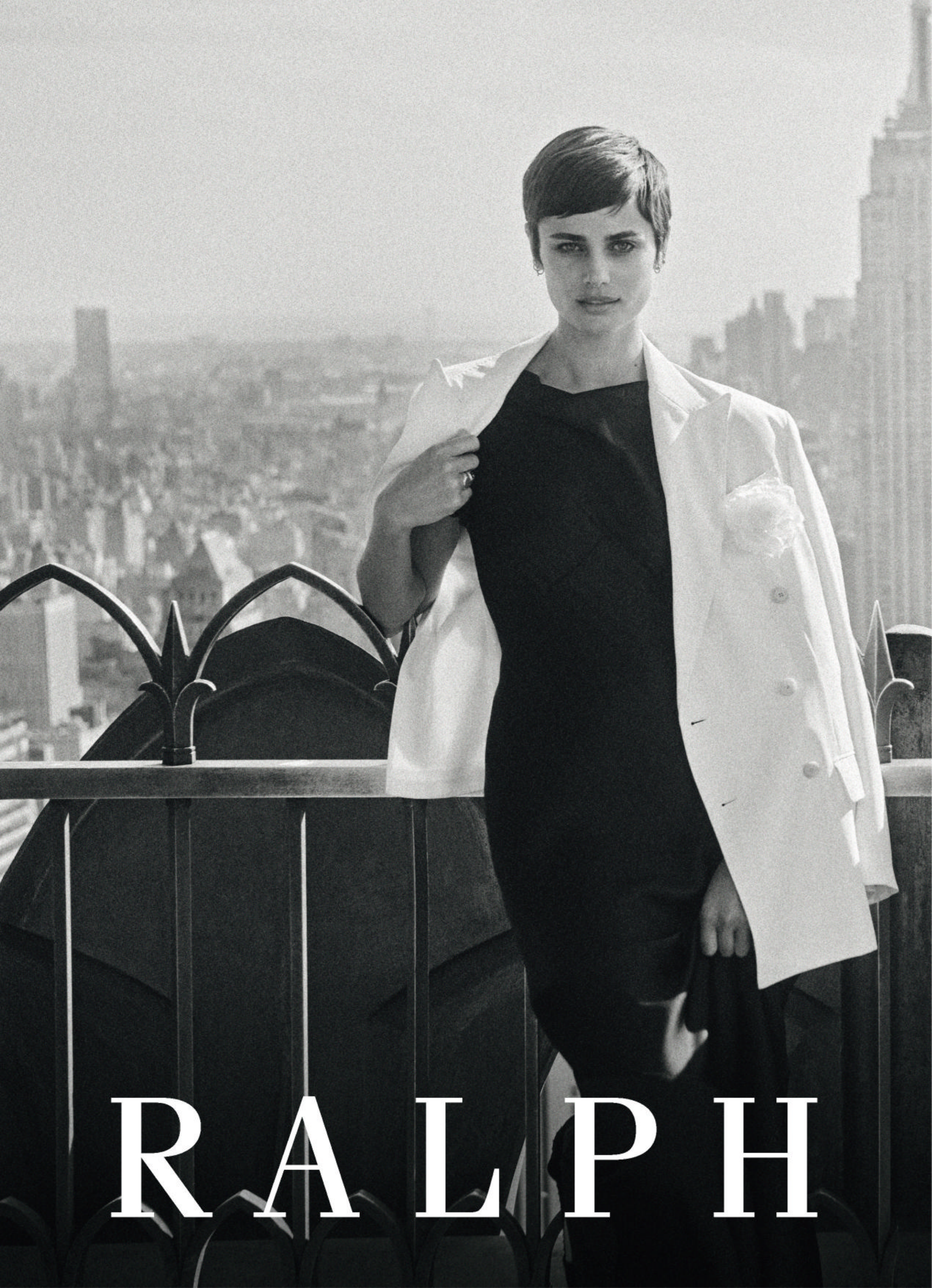
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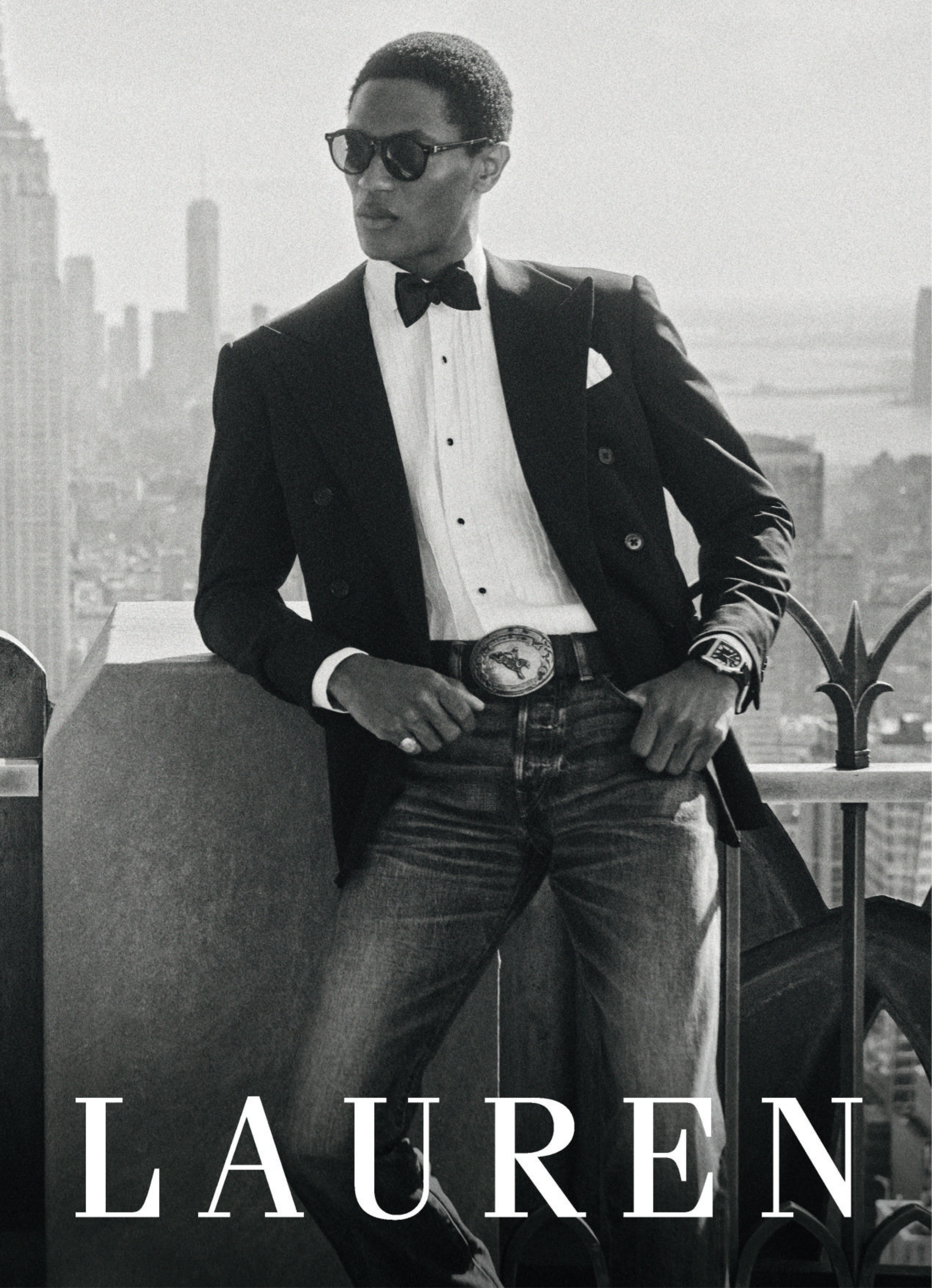
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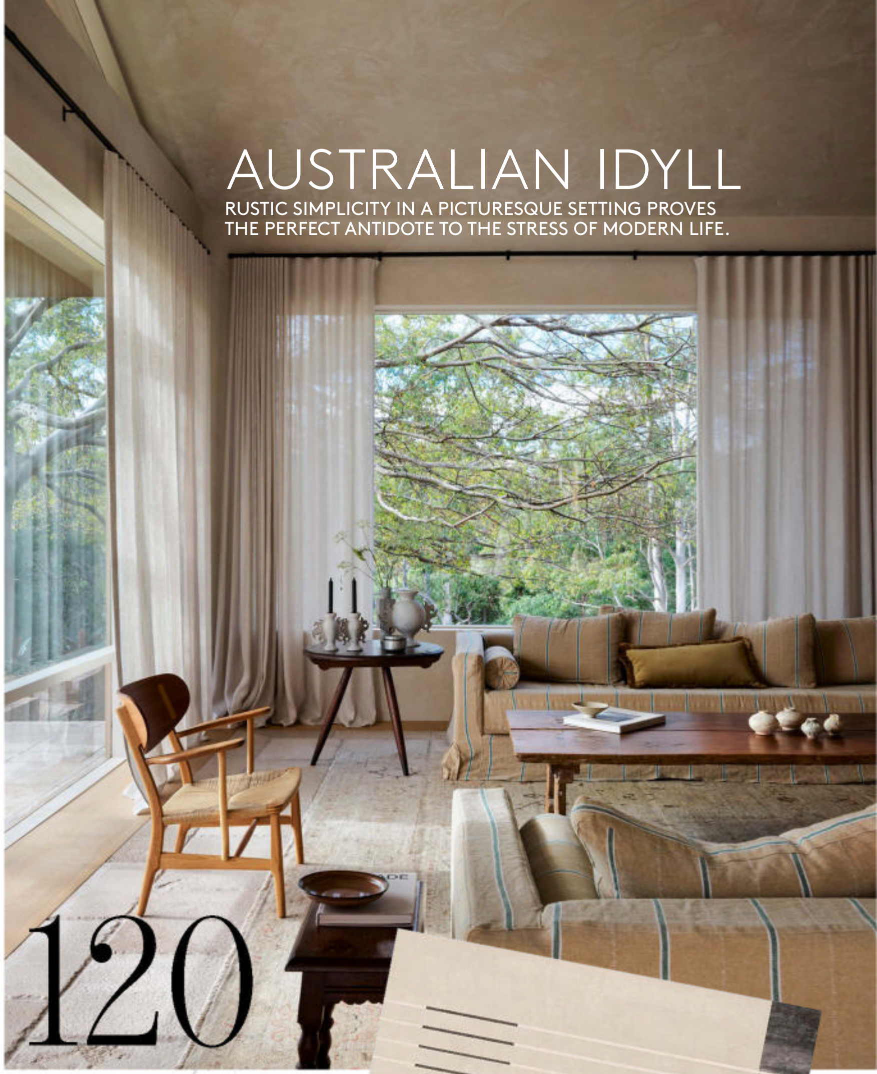

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SEINE STEALER
A FRENCH-STYLE HOME ON ONE OF SYDNEY'S WATERWAYS.

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Thank you to gorgeous Joe Farage for the tux I wore to this year's *Belle*/Fanuli Interior Design Awards, and to the amazing Samantha Powell for my hair and make-up. It takes a talented team!

Welcome to 2025 – that sounds like a crazy number to me, but here we are, and we hope the world will be a little more even and a touch more calm this year. Perhaps the global mood will match our gloriously serene cover house designed by Phoebe Nicol. I love the nuance in the textures and finishes of the neutral palette – it's certainly not staid and beige!

When I am writing, there are some words I form in my brain in an unmistakable yet sophisticated Australian accent, and they have most certainly been shaped by growing up here in the 1970s and '80s, when powerhouse women of publishing regularly jumped off pages, popped up on television or sang out from the radio. One of those was the glamorous, elegant and absolutely fabulous Maggie Tabberer. I have always loved everything she wore and all she said about homes, and I long had rooms from her home cut out from magazines and filed in my moodboard binder for inspiration. I've loved following her and admiring her style since I was really young, and the things she said stuck in my head, like leaving the cushions a mess on the sofa was like leaving your bed unmade. I watched an interview with Maggie where she went to a drawing class but had a strong impulse to clean and renovate the space first as she couldn't concentrate in it – I regularly have that feeling, which I have coined 'betterfication' – and I know many of you share this compulsion! When we started our *Belle* Interior Design Awards 14 years ago, I remember working with editor Neale Whitaker on the guest list and wanting names, names, names. We invited Maggie and she graciously came, even though the awards were new and she didn't have an official role to play. Of course, she wowed every room she walked into and elevated our event accordingly. Vale Maggie – your stylish legacy will live on through your daughters, your grandson, and all your achievements.

Speaking of Australian style, we have some incredible reading and viewing on the following pages – from chic Smart Spaces, including a yacht refreshed by Lucy Clemenger and a country cottage by Greg Natale, to a penthouse and some amazing apartments. Plus, we have an excellent line-up of houses for your New Year inspiration. And how about starting 2025 by making sure you never miss an issue of *Belle* and receiving a fabulous gift into the bargain? Subscribe to *Belle* this month for just $80 and you'll also receive the *Belle: Beautiful Australian Homes Volume IV* book; an elegant Greg Natale tray; a stone cheese board; and four Luigi Bormioli champagne flutes plus a handy *Belle* tote! Who doesn't love a gift with a purchase, especially one this good? Enjoy the issue and we look forward to spending 2025 with you.

Tanya Buchanan

Tanya Buchanan, *Editor-in-chief*

FAB FIVE

1 'Omar' ceramic **vase** in Chalk, $345, Coco Republic. 2 Ombres d'Hermès Eyeshadows **compact** in Ombres Pétales, $175, Myer. 3 *The 1980s: Image of a Decade* **book** by Henry Carroll, $90, Thames & Hudson. 4 'Mies' gold **ring** with gemstone, from $7000, Cushla Whiting. 5 BDK Rouge Smoking Extrait **fragrance**, $499 for 100ml, Libertine Parfumerie.

PHOTOGRAPHY: ESTEBAN LA TESSA (TANYA'S PORTRAIT), MICHELLE HOLDEN (MAGGIE TABBERER)

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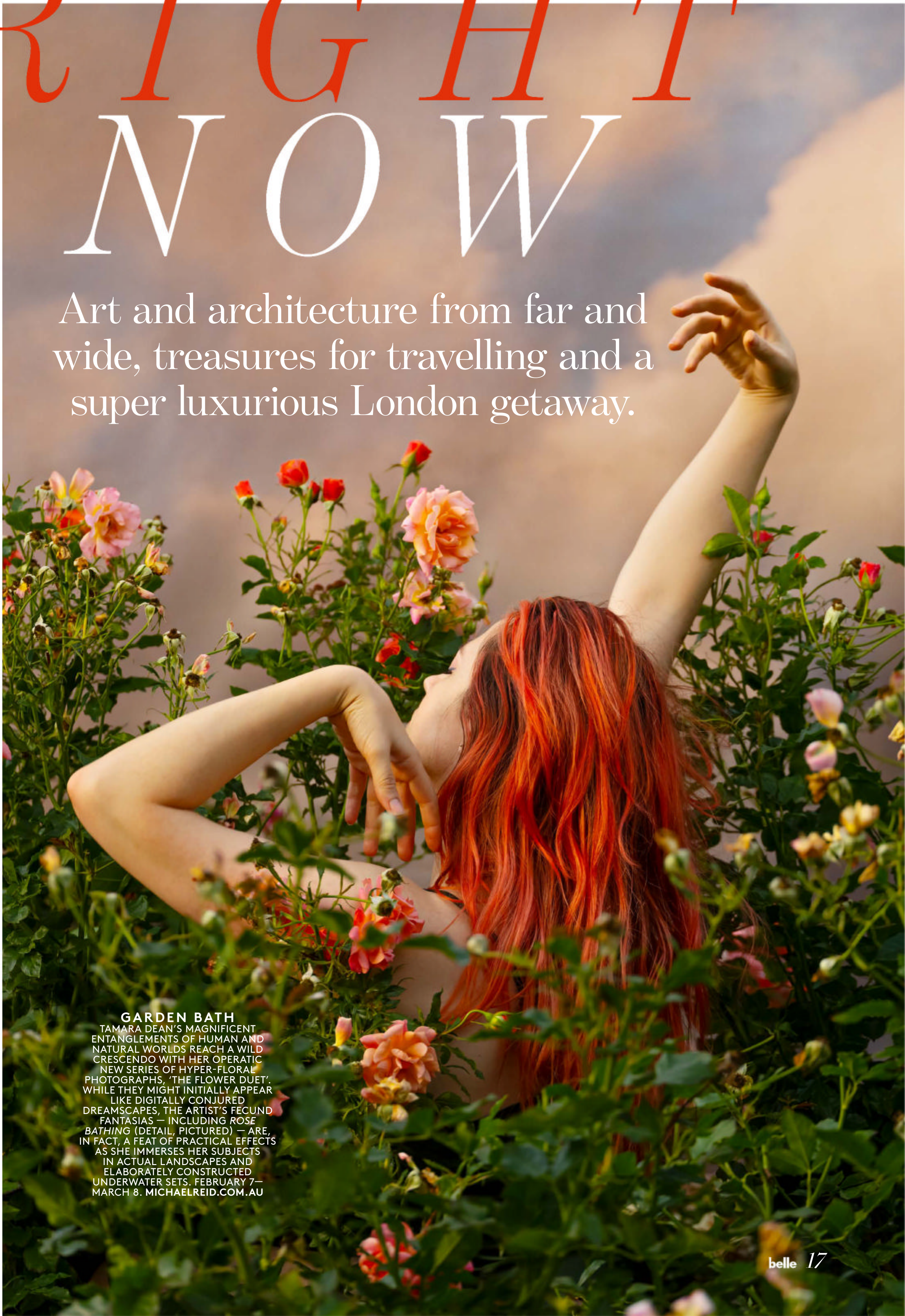
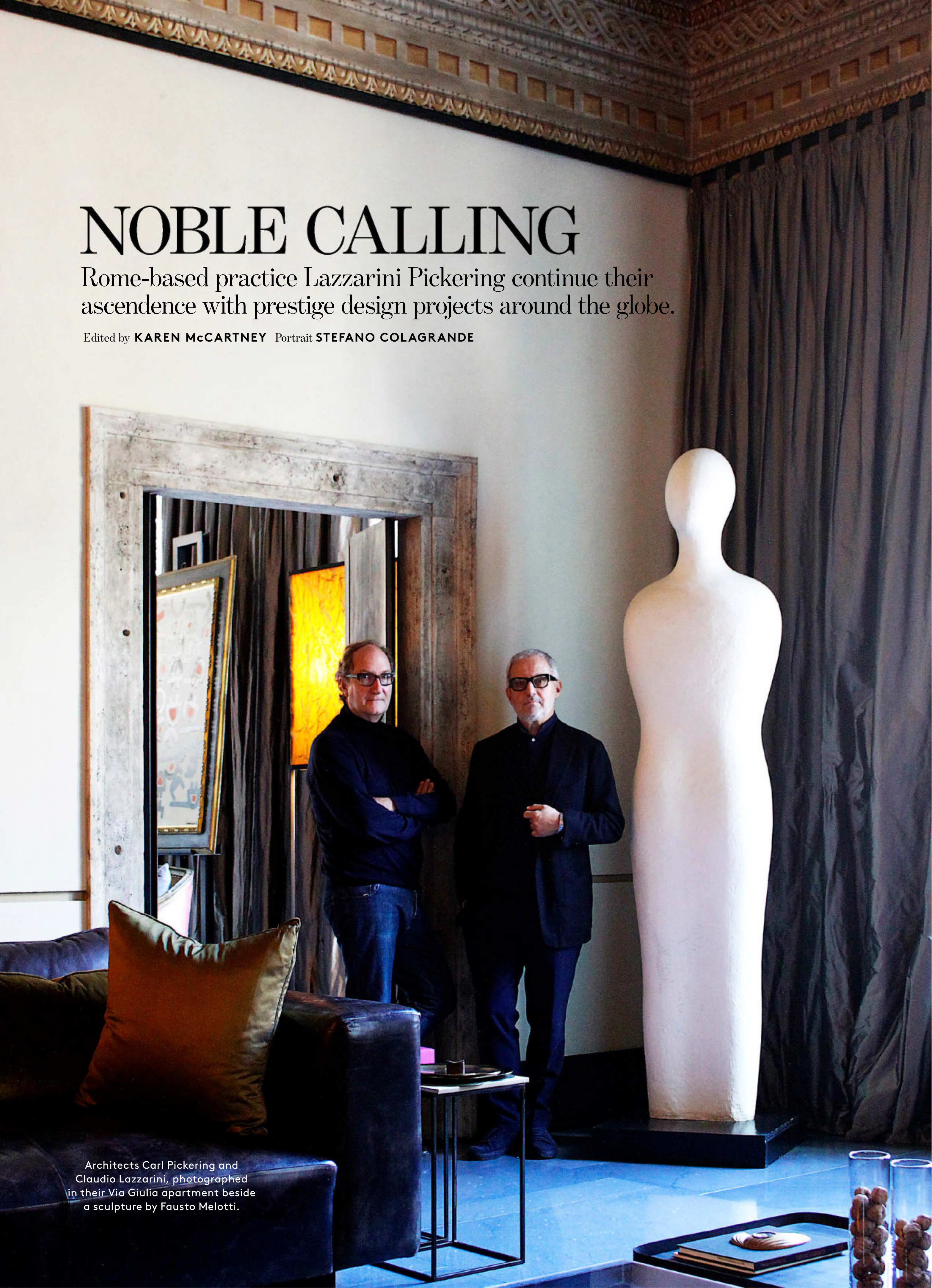


GARDEN BATH
TAMARA DEAN'S MAGNIFICENT ENTANGLEMENTS OF HUMAN AND NATURAL WORLDS REACH A WILD CRESCENDO WITH HER OPERATIC NEW SERIES OF HYPER-FLORAL PHOTOGRAPHS, 'THE FLOWER DUET'. WHILE THEY MIGHT INITIALLY APPEAR LIKE DIGITALLY CONJURED DREAMSCAPES, THE ARTIST'S FECUND FANTASIAS — INCLUDING *ROSE BATHING* (DETAIL, PICTURED) — ARE, IN FACT, A FEAT OF PRACTICAL EFFECTS AS SHE IMMERSES HER SUBJECTS IN ACTUAL LANDSCAPES AND ELABORATELY CONSTRUCTED UNDERWATER SETS. FEBRUARY 7—MARCH 8. **MICHAELREID.COM.AU**

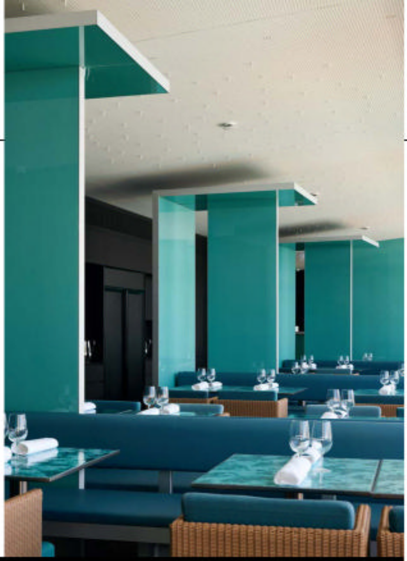
NOBLE CALLING

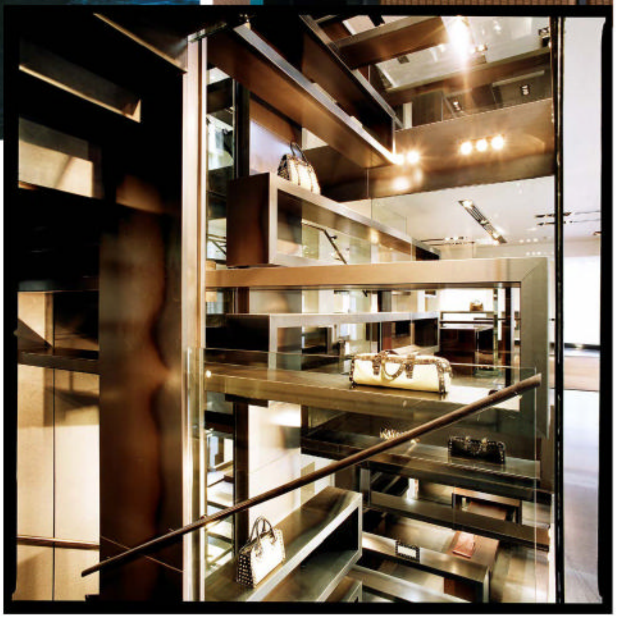
Rome-based practice Lazzarini Pickering continue their ascendence with prestige design projects around the globe.

Edited by **KAREN McCARTNEY** Portrait **STEFANO COLAGRANDE**

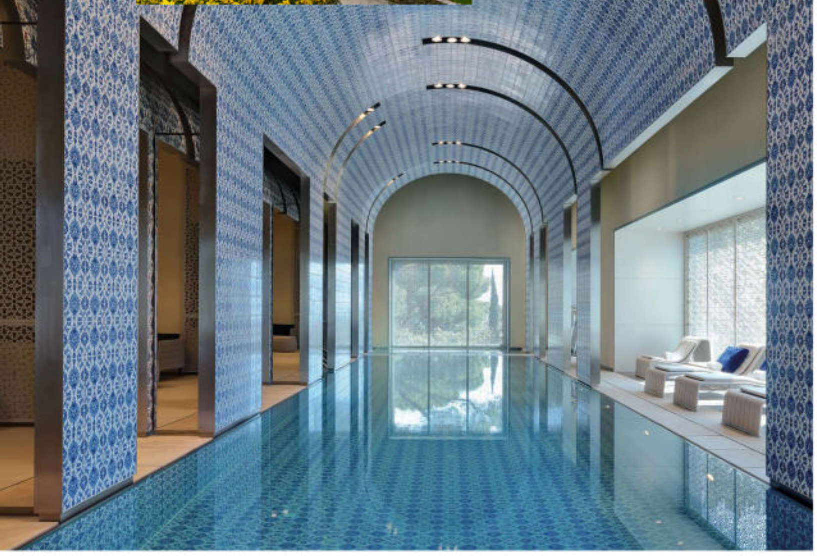


Architects Carl Pickering and Claudio Lazzarini, photographed in their Via Giulia apartment beside a sculpture by Fausto Melotti.





From top left The futuristic design of Wallypower 118 redefined the boating genre. // Icebergs Dining Room and Bar in Bondi, revisited after 20 years, leans into the tones of its waterside location. // Fendi stores with an 'abacus of elements' in raw steel for display were revolutionary. // Sense Hotel in Sofia, Bulgaria. // An arch of tiles is all-encompassing in a Beirut spa.



PHOTOGRAPHY: GILES MARTIN-RAGET (WALLYPOWER), STEVEN WOODBURN (ICEBERGS), MATTEO PIAZZA (ALL OTHERS)

ARCHITECT CARL PICKERING is sipping his morning tea at his studio in Via delle Mantellate, in the famous Trastevere district of Rome, as we connect through the miracle of Zoom. He's one half of Italian/Australian practice Lazzarini Pickering Architetti (LPA) and I have known of his work with business and life partner Claudio Lazzarini since I was editor of *marie claire lifestyle* in the late 1990s. I have taken note of their trajectory with brands such as Fendi, Valentino, Montblanc, Wally and Ferrero; I visited their fascinating project, Casa Museo in Milan, and checked out Maurice Terzini's iconic Sydney restaurant, Icebergs Dining Room and Bar, which they revamped 20 years after their original design.

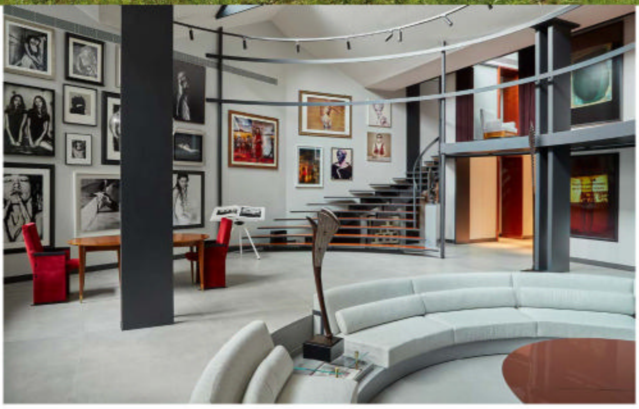
Carl is clear that his early interest in architecture was fostered by his formidable aunt, Beryl Guertner, who was the launch editor of *House & Garden* magazine in 1948. "She was friend to immigré architects Harry Seidler and Hugh Buhrich as well as supporting the work of locals Sydney Ancher, Robin Boyd, Grant and Mary Featherston and Marion Hall Best," says Carl. "She also believed in the democracy of design and wanted to help service men returning from WWII to build economical but architect-designed homes through the DIY kit houses she published." Beryl's library of international architecture magazines was a portal to the world of design, and on his 16th birthday, Carl asked for a subscription to *Casa Vogue*. At 20, he moved to study architecture at the University of Venice, which he notes, "Everybody thought it was romantic and glamorous, but it was really tough." It was defining of his life and career as he met Claudio, a qualified architect seven years his senior. After a brief stint with Enzo Mari, Claudio went out alone and they set up Lazzarini Pickering in 1982.

"Much of the work at the beginning was with Fendi: showrooms, fair installations, exhibitions and show scenography," says Carl. "Working with the five Fendi sisters, each with their particular area of expertise, was incredible." As well as more than 150 projects for the brand, built between 1982 and 2003, they designed the Fendi-Karl Lagerfeld show at the National Gallery of Modern Art in Rome (1985) and also worked on private homes for the sisters in Rome, Capri, Paris and New York.

One project that illustrates the enduring nature of their work is the Fendi flagship store in Rome (1997) – one of 80 boutiques they designed around the world – where traditional furnishings were replaced with an 'abacus of elements' to build a three-dimensional internal architecture of overlapping raw steel components (which he termed 'noble poverty') to form display shelving, counters and tabletops that could create site-specific configurations for each boutique. "We wanted visitors to have a sense of a theatrical mise-en-scène in which, there being no separation between boutique space and shop window, they act alongside the objects on display, and the experience of the brand's unique and precious products becomes more direct."

Their collaboration with Fendi lasted for over 20 years, and client loyalty has become a defining quality of their practice. "We have a current client for whom we've undertaken 28 projects, and we are also now working with the second generation of the family. Our skill is that we are good listeners and we ask our clients to talk to us in terms of sensations, not objects," says Carl. They don't have a formulaic style, rather they have an approach, and while there are linguistic elements that you can detect in their work from the beginning, the outcomes are incredibly diverse. They even call their work 'site-specific portraits of clients' and their open-ended design process yields inventive results.

For a hotel dating from 1325 – the Gasthof Bad Dreikirchen in Barbiano, South Tyrol – they introduced a flexibility of use into the traditional wooden balconies with sliding platforms that form



Clockwise from top left 'The Bluff Villa' in the Chilterns, UK, responds to its site and history with a contemporary form and classical references. // The scheme for 'Elaine' in Sydney 's Point Piper didn't proceed when the client sold. // Interior of the Benetti Motopanfilo 37M with its restrained palette of materials: teak, mahogany, white lacquer and polished stainless steel. // The LPA-designed 'Murena' chair from Marta Sala Éditions. // Casa-Museo is a converted silversmith workshop in Milan – now forming an art-filled home and exhibition space.

benches and tables when pulled into the balcony and protrude from the building when pushed out. "The theme of transformation is again central: the simple repositioning of furniture modifies the facade, producing ever-different plays of light and shadow," says Carl. This project was presented at the 2004 Venice Biennale in the Italian Pavilion alongside a villa in Positano (in the Cities on Water section), where the driving idea was a collection of antique Vietri ceramic tiles threading through the two-storey house on a ribbon of steel to form horizontal and vertical surfaces.

While these point to their search for the primary idea, there is a parallel emphasis in the practice on the technical, and research into new materials, which has led to a number of award-winning innovations, particularly in the world of nautical design. "I'm not a boating person," says Carl, "but our research has allowed us to experiment in ways that have altered the course of boat design."

Their external and interior design of the Wallypower 118, begun in 1999, still looks revolutionary today. Material research and advanced technology has driven its sculptural form, and the glass and carbon-fibre prism creates complete visual integration of the outside decks with the interior. LPA designs have been recognised at the highest level, and their Wally 80 series of faster cruiser sloops won the coveted 2008 ADI Compasso d'Oro Industrial Design Prize.

From sea to land, where a focus on landscape has always been a vital element of their work, they are currently developing cutting-edge biodiversity strategies for two large working farms in Puglia and Sardinia, while an underground courtyard villa on Meganisi island in Greece is entirely covered with local flora and olive trees.

Furniture design for individual projects has also found a broader audience through their longstanding relationship with Marta Sala Éditions, with whom they've collaborated for nearly 10 years. Working initially with the architects' archive of designs, Marta was drawn to their specific 'solution-oriented' approach. The collaboration continues with nine successful collections to date. "The architects not only respond and solve the need, they apply their signature cultural and couture approach to it, generating furniture of unforgettable significance," says Marta.

Beyond their work across Europe, Australian commissions have always played a part in the practice's output. Working on Icebergs Dining Room and Bar, they revisited the interior for the 20th anniversary with a palette that continues to echo the seascape and pool below with the introduction of hand-glazed Tuscan tile tables in turquoises, aquamarines, blues and greens. In an extension of the brand presence, they're developing a project to bring Icebergs to Sydney International Airport. "We are always careful with the precious DNA of the original," says Carl.

Architecture can be a brutal business and a recent disappointment was the shelving of their design for 'Elaine', an historic property in Sydney's Point Piper, originally owned by the Fairfax family. The LPA scheme preserved the historic core while introducing a curved contemporary facade plus a 20-metre lap pool and rooftop tennis court. It failed to go ahead when owners Atlassian founder Scott Farquhar and his wife, Kim Jackson, decided to sell.

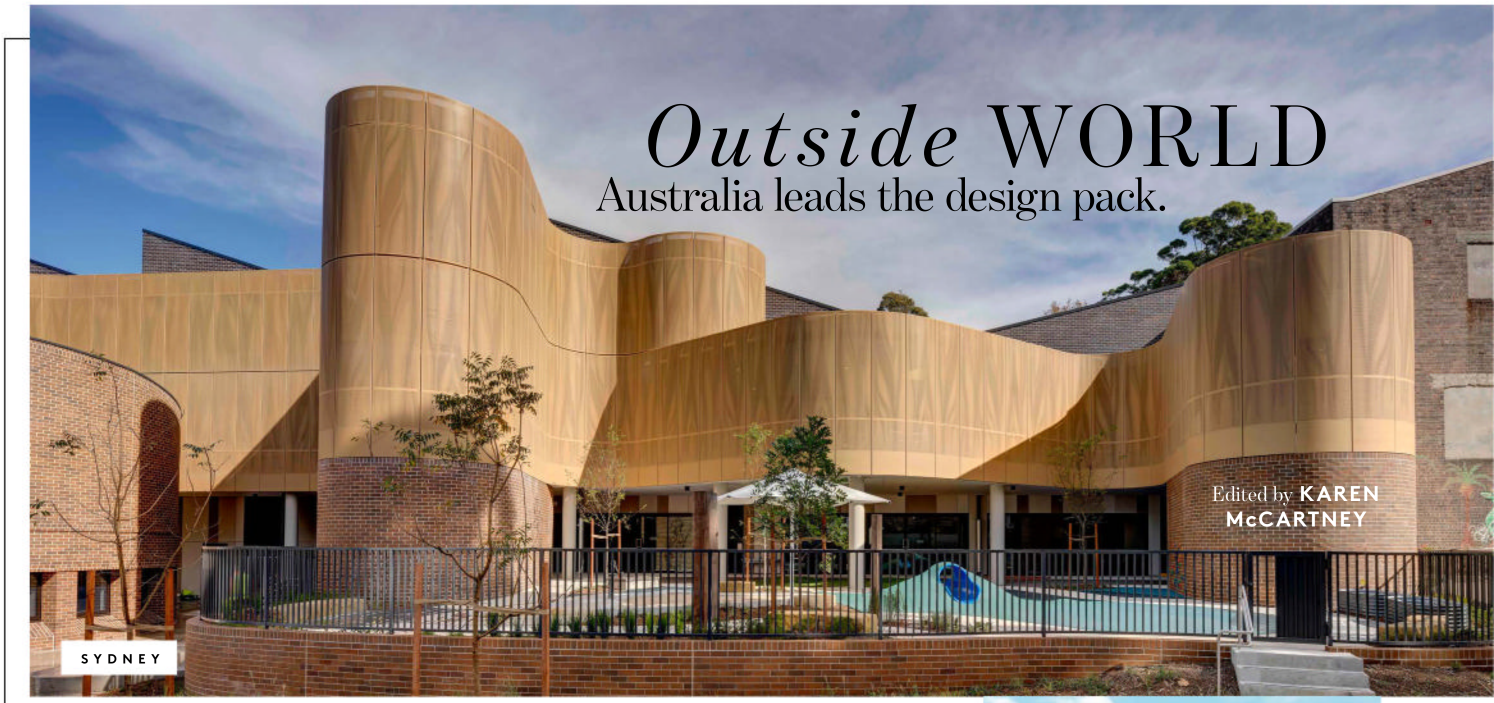
According to Carl, though, what always survives is the Lazzarini Pickering personal and creative partnership. "We are lucky to be able to have really important discussions on ski lifts or lying in bed or whatever. Our work is with us 24/7." And with a wealth of returning clients, many of whom guard their privacy and don't want their homes publicised, what we do see is seemingly the tip of a very well-curated iceberg.
lazzarinipickering.com; @lazzarinipickering

MARTA SALA ÉDITIONS IS AVAILABLE IN AUSTRALIA THROUGH MOEBEL. PHOTOGRAPHY: MATTEO PIAZZA (BLUFF VILLA), MICHELA LOCCI (BENETTI), LPA (ELAINE), MARTA SALA ÉDITIONS (MURENA), CRISTOPHER GHIOLDI (CASA-MUSEO)

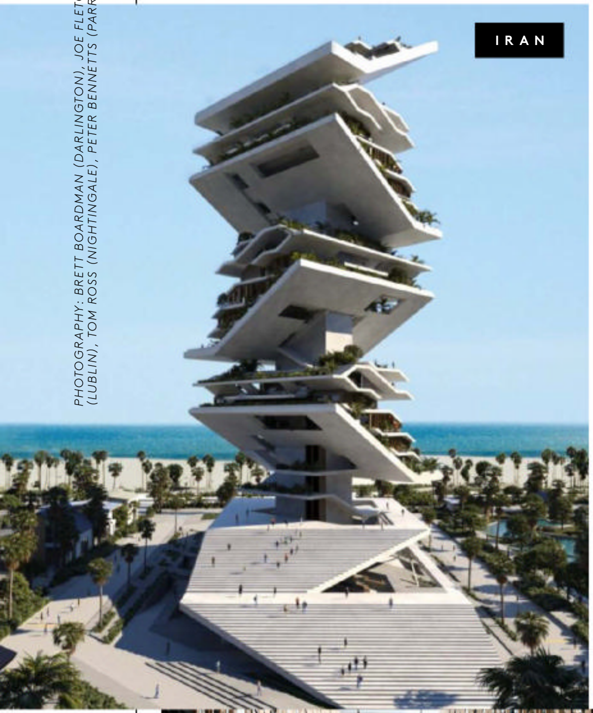
Outside WORLD

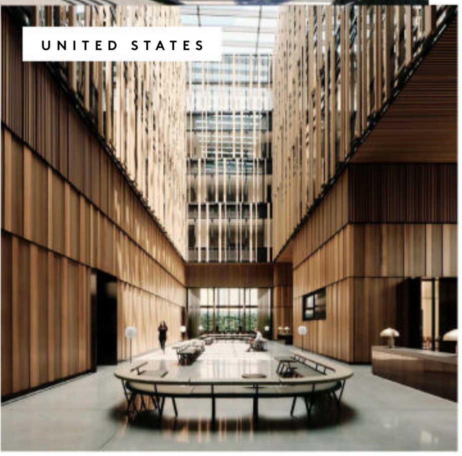
Australia leads the design pack.

Edited by **KAREN McCARTNEY**



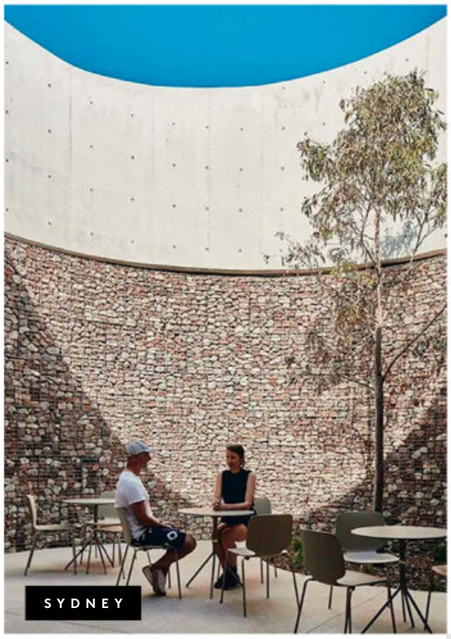
At the World Architecture Festival 2024, Australia came out on top in many of the key categories – including World Building of the Year, won by fjcstudio for **Darlington Public School** (above), a Sydney community school with strong connections to First Nations people.



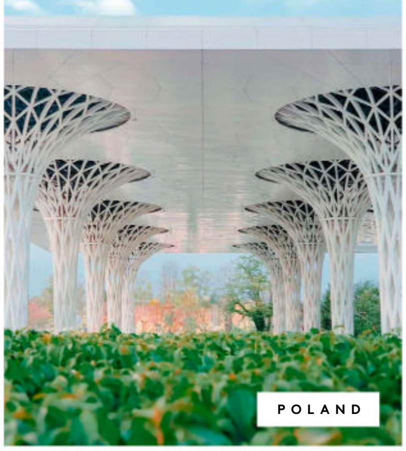


Shoupé (below left) – a daring mixed-use project by KanLan Studio on the Babolsar coastline of Iran – won the Future Project: Commercial Mixed-Use category for its ambitious vertically-stacked neighbourhoods.

Parramatta Aquatic Centre (below), by Grimshaw and Andrew Burges Architects with McGregor Coxall, won the Completed Buildings: Sport category, and was acknowledged for its inventive design as a new and inclusive community hub centred around the pleasure of swimming in a park setting.



The Embassy of Australia (left) in Washington, DC by Bates Smart won the Inside: Public Buildings award by employing an expressive use of angled copper and extensive glazing, creating a dynamic facade and state-of-the-art gallery space dedicated to displaying the embassy's permanent collection.



Another stand-out was the **Metropolitan Bus Station** (above) in Lublin, Poland, by architects Tremend Architecture Studio. A winner in Completed Buildings: Transport, it is an environmentally friendly project with strategies to reduce energy consumption, combined with a playful expression of nature.

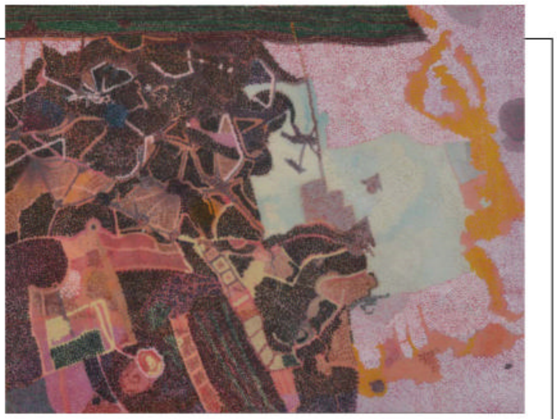
Back on home shores, **Nightingale Village** in Melbourne's Brunswick (below) realised a vision to create a fossil-fuel-free precinct, providing long-term homes for a diverse community. Congratulations to the six participating architects, who were also the developers: **Architecture architecture**, **Austin Maynard Architects**, **Breathe**, **Clare Cousins Architect**, **Hayball** and **Kennedy Nolan** on the Completed Buildings: Housing award.

PHOTOGRAPHY: BRETT BOARDMAN (DARLINGTON), JOE FLETCHER (THE EMBASSY OF AUSTRALIA), HASHTAGALEK (LUBLIN), TOM ROSS (NIGHTINGALE), PETER BENNETTS (PARRAMATTA), @KAZ.STUDIO (SHOUPE)

New works

Human nature and the environment coalesce on canvas and beyond.

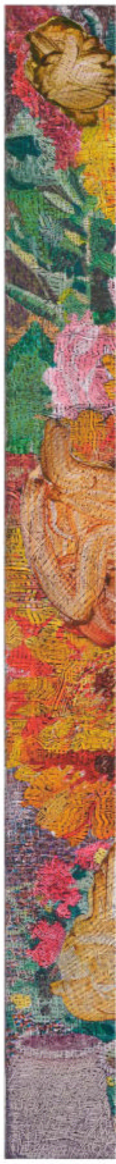
Edited by **HARRY ROBERTS**



SYDNEY

SOFTLY POINTED

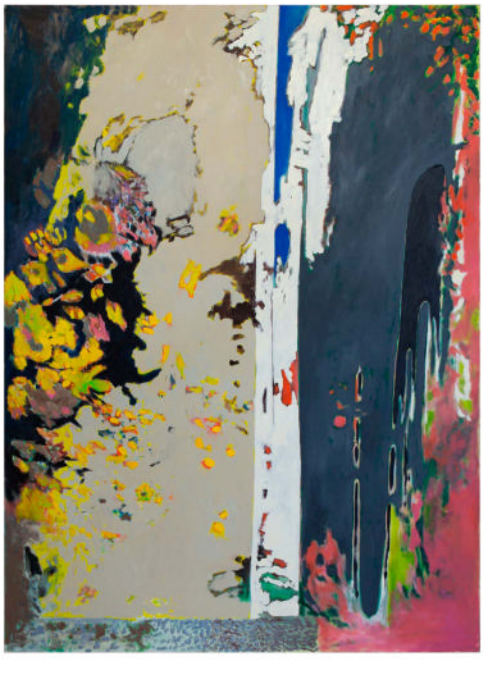
With personal memory and cultural inheritance as her guide, Simone Griffin (left) takes an introspective approach to mapping the landscape, using airbrush techniques to build mesmerising works of fizzing, floating and efflorescent abstraction that sit between the traditions of Western pointillism and First Nations dot painting. The handmade and machine-aided repetitions inherent to her meditative process invite a visual dance between pulsing automation and poetic transcendence. Until January 28. ***nasha.com.au***



MELBOURNE

ANOTHER WORLD

Izabela Pluta's photo-based installations plunge the viewer into an ecosystem of fragmented undersea visions to evoke the disorientation of being beneath the ocean's surface. 'Variable Depth, Shallow Water' (still, below) joins recent and commissioned works in 'The Charge That Binds', a group show whose forays into sublime non-human worlds remind us what is at stake in our time of ecological emergency. Until March 16; ***acca.melbourne***



MELBOURNE

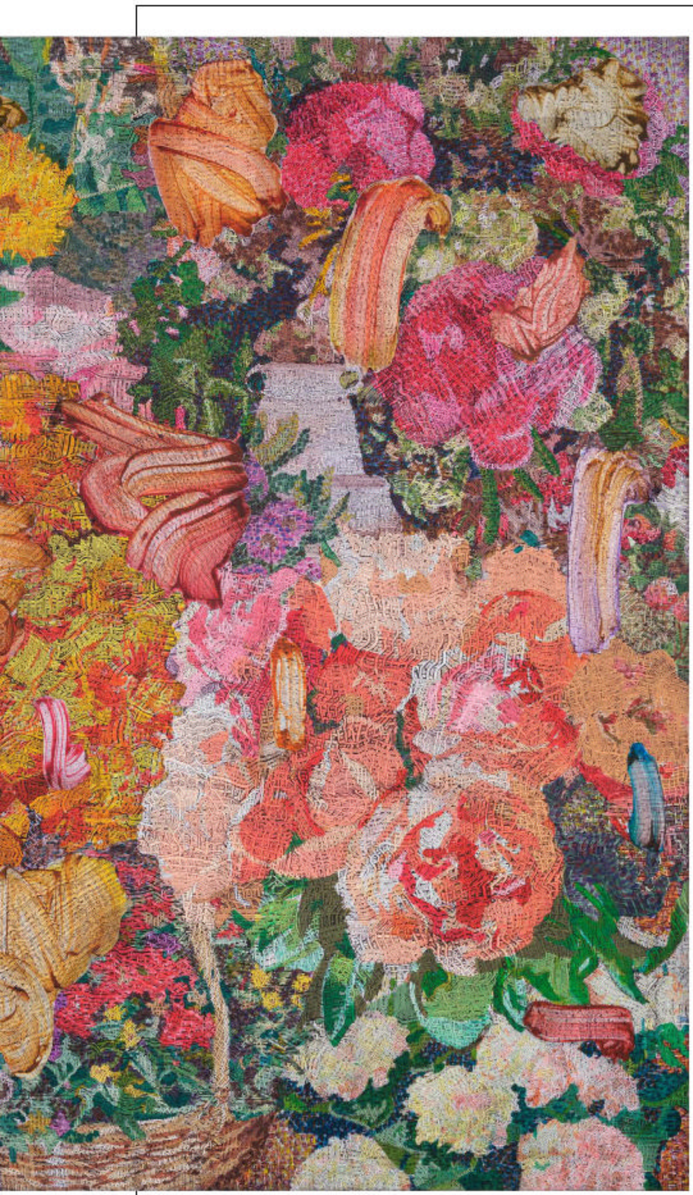
COLOUR ENCODED

BENJAMIN BARRETTO ANIMATES HIS EXPRESSIVE PAINTINGS WITH A HYBRID APPROACH THAT TOGGLES BETWEEN PHYSICAL, DIGITAL AND MECHANICAL SYSTEMS. IN HIS ONGOING 'SCANNERS' SERIES, HE MANIPULATES HIS INITIAL SKETCHES WITH A SCANNER AND PHOTOCOPIER BEFORE RESIZING AND BRINGING THEM TO LIFE IN UNTAMED BURSTS OF COLOUR. PICTURED (LEFT) IS *GRAVEL*, SHOWING AT ANIMAL HOUSE FINE ARTS DURING MELBOURNE ART FAIR. FEBRUARY 20–23; **ANIMAL HOUSEFINEARTS.COM**

CANBERRA

HOLDING A MIRROR

'Carol Jerrems: Portraits' celebrates the era-defining legacy of the filmmaker and photographer whose autobiographical images (below) of friends, lovers, 'louts' and peers from the art, music and youth scenes of 1970s Melbourne and Sydney offer an indelible social document. Captured over a 12-year career cut short by her death at 30, Carol's body of work distils the mood of a decade defined by feminism, activism and cultural change. Until March 2; ***portrait.gov.au***



SYDNEY

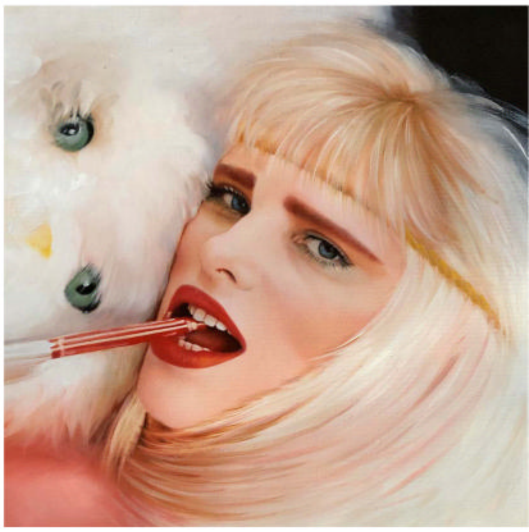
BLOOMING MARVELLOUS

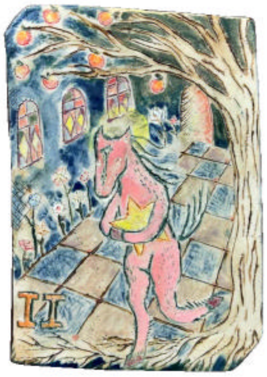
Living in Paris for the past five years, Gregory Hodge has taken inspiration from the tapestry collections of the Manufacture des Gobelins and Musée d'Orsay and shifted his approach to abstraction. In works such as *Bloom* (left), lushly blossoming landscapes cohere through translucent overlapping layers, seamlessly interwoven with abstract gestures in a field of hazy, illusionistic textures. February 27–March 29. **sullivanstrumpf.com**

MELBOURNE

ASSET RICH

TAKING INTERNET STARS AND TABLOID FIXTURES AS SLEEKLY EROTICISED AVATARS OF CONSUMER CULTURE RUN AMOK, VICTORIA TODOROV'S SEDUCTIVE HYPER-POP PORTRAITS – SUCH AS *UNTITLED (CICCIOLINA)*, AT RIGHT – ASK HOW NETWORKED IMAGES PRIMED FOR VIRALITY MIGHT SEEP OFFLINE AND REWIRE OUR REPRESENTATIONS OF SELF. HER WORK FORMS PART OF A LARGER PICTURE IN 'IMAGE ECONOMIES', A GROUP SHOW LAUNCHING MUMA'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY PROGRAM, WHICH EXPLORES THE DIGITAL SPHERE'S IMPACT ON THE MAKING OF COMMODIFIED IMAGES IN AN INCREASINGLY AUTOMATED WORLD. FEBRUARY 8–APRIL 12. **MONASH.EDU/MUMA**





MELBOURNE

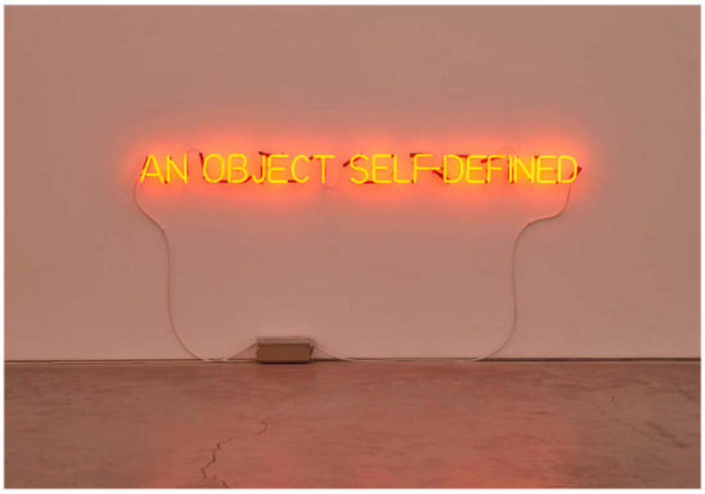
PRIVATE IDOLS

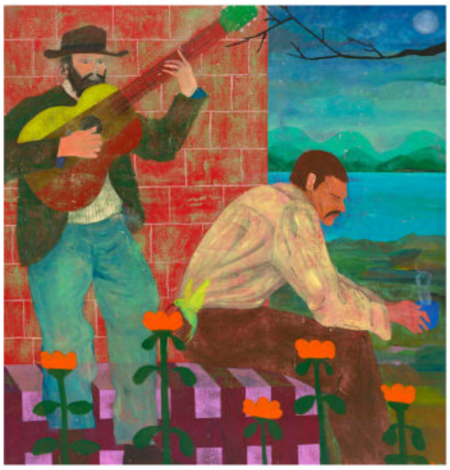
Honing the personal iconography she's developed over seven years, Matilda Davis's latest show sees her oil paintings interspersed with ceramic wall sculptures (left) that meld the intimate scale and cosmic resonance of tarot cards and ancient tablets. These surreal and psychological stage plays present a cast of characters, from rabbits as self-portraits to swans as symbols of transformation. January 30–March 1. ***futuresgallery.com.au***

MELBOURNE

HOMECOMING

A convergence of artists from the Anna Schwartz stable casts their art in a vivid new light. 'In House' offers fresh readings of commissioned and archival works by the likes of David Noonan, Jenny Watson and Joseph Kosuth, whose *Self-Defined Object* bathes its surroundings in the glow of neon-lit text. February–March. **annaschwartzgallery.com**





SYDNEY

THE NEED FOR ROOTS

DRAWING ON HIS EGYPTIAN HERITAGE AND UPBRINGING IN THE DANDENONG FOOTHILLS, JUSTIN WILLIAMS WEAVES ELEMENTS OF MYTH AND FOLKLORE INTO HIS SPRAWLING, TAPESTRY-LIKE PAINTINGS (ABOVE), FINDING A COMMON THREAD BETWEEN PERSONAL AND COLLECTIVE HISTORIES AMID FEELINGS OF PHYSICAL DISPLACEMENT VERSUS FAMILIAL CONNECTION. THE 'WAITING FOR LAVENDER' SERIES WAS INFORMED BY THE BIRTH OF HIS DAUGHTER. JANUARY 31–FEBRUARY 22. **COMAGALLERY.COM**

PHOTOGRAPHY: DEAN LEVER (SIMONE GRIFFIN PORTRAIT)

belle FANULI INTERIOR DESIGN AWARDS 2024

Everything was black and white at the most colourful design event of the year!

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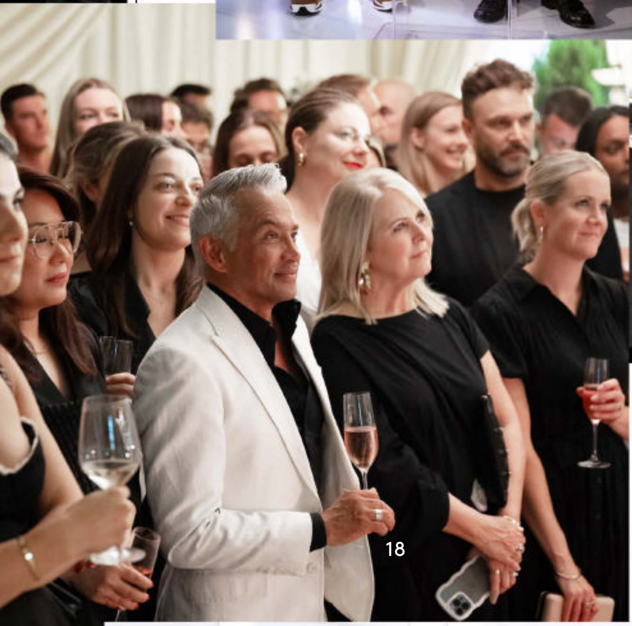
1 Fiona and Emma Lynch. **2** Tess Glasson, Jeremy Bull. **3** Jase Sullivan. **4** Paul Hecker. **5** Stefania Reynolds and Conrad Johnston of Studio Johnston. **6** Julia Cox. **7** Skye Healey Ward, Tess Glasson, Lauren Camilleri. **8** Brahman Perera. **9** Neale Whitaker. **10** Bird in Hand's Pinot Rosé was a popular tipple served chilled on the night. **11** Grecian alabaster busts from Mercer & Lewis. **12** Belinda Chippindale and Dimity Chitty of Studio Aquilo. **13** Yasmine Ghoniem, Laura Campbell.

14
belle
FANULI
INTERIOR DESIGN AWARDS 2024



THE 2024 *BELLE*/FANULI INTERIOR DESIGN AWARDS kicked off at the Fanuli showroom in Sydney on the evening of November 14. The event's long-time sponsor, Fanuli, together with *Belle* editor-in-chief Tanya Buchanan and style director-at-large Steve Cordony, welcomed more than 400 esteemed guests – the best architects, designers and stylists from around Australia – some of whom were awarded special gongs on the night. There were star turns from Fiona Lynch, our Interior Designer of the Year, and Hall of Fame recipient Paul Hecker, who swapped the fabulous eye-smacking colour he'd sported in our previous issue for far-from-basic black. Other category winners included Yasmine Ghoniem from YSG Studio; Julia Cox of Julia Cox Co; Brahman Perera; Belinda Chippindale and Dimity Chitty of Studio Aquilo; and Jase Sullivan. Making the evening a resounding success were sponsors Fanuli and Bird in Hand, Fulgor Milano, Elements of Byron, International Floorcoverings Australia, Cabinetti Panels, ABI Interiors and Dulux. The concept for the event was designed by Steven Cordony and brought to life by Alistair Thomson and Are Media's Cate Gazal, with the gorgeous musical accompaniment of Luxe Strings adding an immaculate finishing touch.

14 Fabio Fanuli, Marco Fanuli. **15** Brahman Perera, Bronwyn Litera. **16** Michael Lo Sordo, Imogen Naylor. **17** Kirstie Clements. **18** Richard Miso, Lynne Bradley; (at back) Rhyl Heavener, Gavin Kirk. **19** The Bird Single Malt Whiskey. **20** Neale Whitaker, Greg Natale. **21** Judy Pascoe. **22** Shayne Burton. **23** Steve Cordony wearing Armani and Tanya Buchanan wearing Farage.

PHOTOGRAPHY: ESTEBAN LA TESSA

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FANULI BIRD IN HAND FULGOR MILANO ELEMENTS OF BYRON INTERNATIONAL CP CABINETTI PANELS Dulux ABI INTERIORS

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belle 50
Sparkling
BIRD IN HAND
Sparkling

24 Joseph Fanuli, Gian-Luca Fanuli, Carlo Fanuli, Fabio Fanuli, Sandro Fanuli, Marco Fanuli, Lara Fanuli. **25** The sparkling wine was flowing. **26** Yasmine Ghoniem, Tanya Buchanan. **27** Tom Ferguson, Mikey Ayoubi, Danielle Grover. **28** Georgia Hawkins, Jacinta Woods, Brendan Wong, Sonia Warner, Brett Mickan, Nick English. **29** *Belle*'s 50th birthday cake. **30** Shaun Russell, Yosi Tal, Ammie Marshall. **31** Edward Urrutia, Georgina Egan. **32** Mary Papantoniou, Danielle Trippett. **33** Claire Delmar, Romaine Alwill. **34** Delicious hors d'oeuvres. **35** Jonathon Peterson, Jacinta Preston, Bernard Radcliffe. **36** Renee Alam, Joel Yakoubi, Greg Natale, Taylor Payne, Noah Ricci. **37** Mark Mastroianni, Kelly Mastroianni. **38** Blake Wright, Sheridan Perry, Andrew Cook. **39** Sophie Main, Mary-Anne Norton. **40** John Eussen, Priscilla Prempeh. **41** Madison Dixon, Sophie MacDiarmid, Selena O'Hare, Ben Grooms. **42** Cassandra Crook, David Crook. **43** Tigger Hall, Greg Natale. **44** Emma Elizabeth, Harry Roberts. **45** Jack Clissold, Chloe Tozer. **46** Joseph Fanuli, Sophie Wilson. **47** Adam Valentine, Max Soans-Burne. **48** Vince Ciolino, Melissa Ciolino. **49** Jody Scott, Lynne Bradley. **50** Briellyn Turton. **51** DJ Demi Bryant. **52** Dylan Nicolas. **53** Paul Hecker, Hamish Guthrie. **54** Giada Kypuros, Iv Hout Kuoch, Bronte Thompson.

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Camelot sofa, design Antonio Citterio

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ELEMENTS
OF BYRON

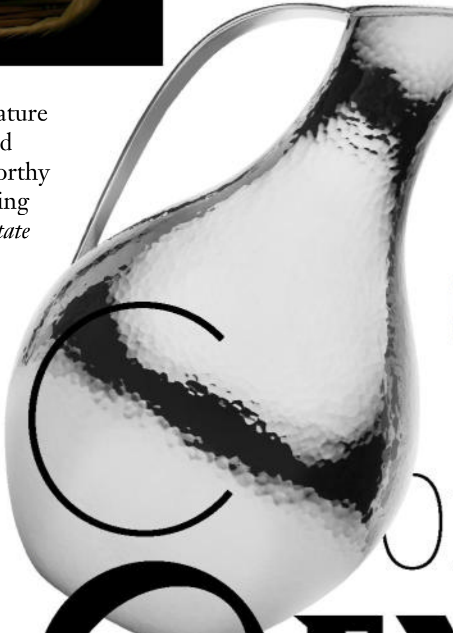
CHIC AGENDA

Our *Belle* style editor-at-large continues his quest for the best of the best.

Edited by **STEVE CORDONY**

FLAMINGO ESTATE
The Guide to Becoming Alive
RICHARD CHRISTIANSEN
01

01_WORDS OF WISDOM Celebrating his love of nature and design, Richard Christiansen has released *The Guide to Becoming Alive*, heroing his Insta-worthy Flamingo Estate in California along with sharing recipes and tips for honest living. *@flamingo_estate*



02

02_METALLIC MOMENTS
Silverware is having a major moment, and no one creates or restores more stunning pieces than WJ Sanders, silversmiths and goldsmiths since 1911 who are based in Sydney and once restored pieces for the Queen. *wjsanders.com*

03_CREAM OF THE CROP
Taking his design eye to a second rug collection for Unitex, Darren Palmer has designed a range of floorcoverings to enhance any room in the house, including the garden, where the 'Sandridge' outdoor rug in Cream can lay down a little coastal magic. *unitexint.com*

04

04_LIQUID LUXE
The time has come! Trudon has launched their first liquid soap, styled in a chic vessel reminiscent of their iconic candle and home fragrances. Available in two scents: Médie and Vixi. *trudon.com.au*

TRUDON
VIXI

05_CHECK IT OUT If it's good enough for Kate Moss, it's good enough for me. RAKxa is the integrative wellness retreat based in Bang Krachao, near Bangkok, which helps guests to achieve balance in mind, body and soul. *rakxawellness.com*

06

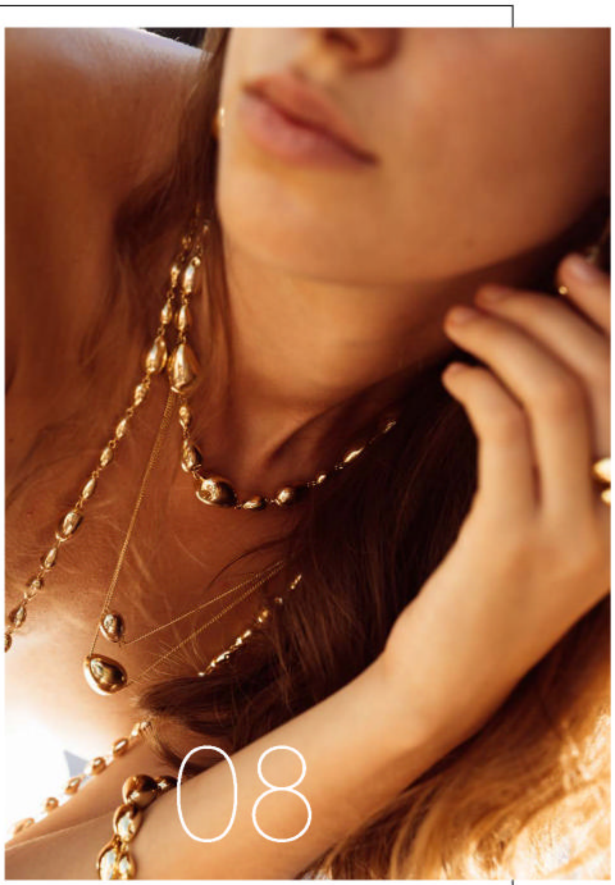
06_BUBBLING OVER

Composed around the harvest of 2010, Krug's Grande Cuvée 166ème Édition is a masterclass in the brand's careful attention to detail and ability to create depth within a very glamorous bottle. *krug.com*

KRUG
GRANDE CUVÉE
CHAMPAGNE
KRUG
GRANDE CUVÉE

07_DRIVE TIME

In December, the latest iteration of Range Rover House was created on the Great Barrier Reef with the luxury car brand presenting the Orpheus Edition. Every detail, from the glossy blue exteriors to the wave detail imprinted on the leather seats, personified the unique landscape and were enjoyed by guests for three days across two private islands. *landrover.com.au*



08_OLIVE INSPIRED

Alex and Trahanas have created a beautiful range of pendants, earrings, cuffs, bracelets and rings named Eliá, stemming from the Greek word for 'olive', a cherished Mediterranean symbol. *alexandtrahanas.com*

09

09_SHELL CHIC

Out in time for summer, the latest sunglasses styles from Kering Eyewear include these bold tortoiseshell frames by Bottega Veneta. *keringeyewear.com*

AUSTRALIAN
MEL
BUS
OPEN 2025

10

10_FIRST SERVE

In January, the Australian Open is back, with tennis-loving label Ralph Lauren presenting their capsule collection for 2025. *ralphlauren.com*

11_HOLD IT

A multifunctional object designed by Ellison Studios for Mejuri, the 'Shoal' catchall is inspired by warm sandbanks in shallow waters. Made from crystalline glass. *ellisonstudios.com*

PHOTOGRAPHY: TOM FERGUSON (OLYMPUS)

12_COLLECTIVE STYLE

Australian-owned lifestyle brand Saardé has opened its first flagship store in Sydney's Surry Hills. Designed by Melbourne-based studio The Stella Collective, the result is a vision of Quattro Stagioni marble and more. *saarde.com*

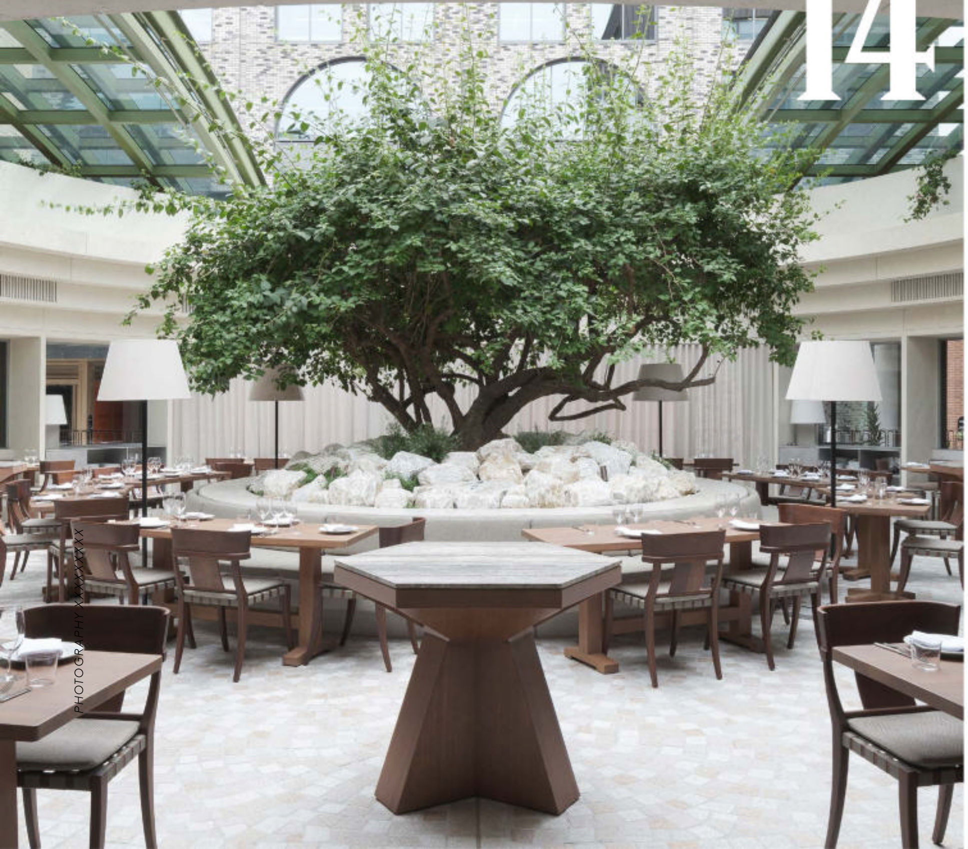
13_DENIM SCENT

Created out of a passion for scent and its power to evoke memories, (S)Mer, founded by Ed Hansen, draws inspiration from the timeless confidence of wearing jeans and a white T-shirt, telling a story to elevate daily life. *s-mer.com*

13
eau de parfum
(S)MER
S)MER

14_LOFTY DINING

Conjuring a Greek taverna surrounded by olive trees and communal tables, Olympus Dining in Sydney is the latest brainchild of Jonathan Barthelmess, who has once again collaborated with George Livissianis to bring the space to life. *olympusdining.com.au*



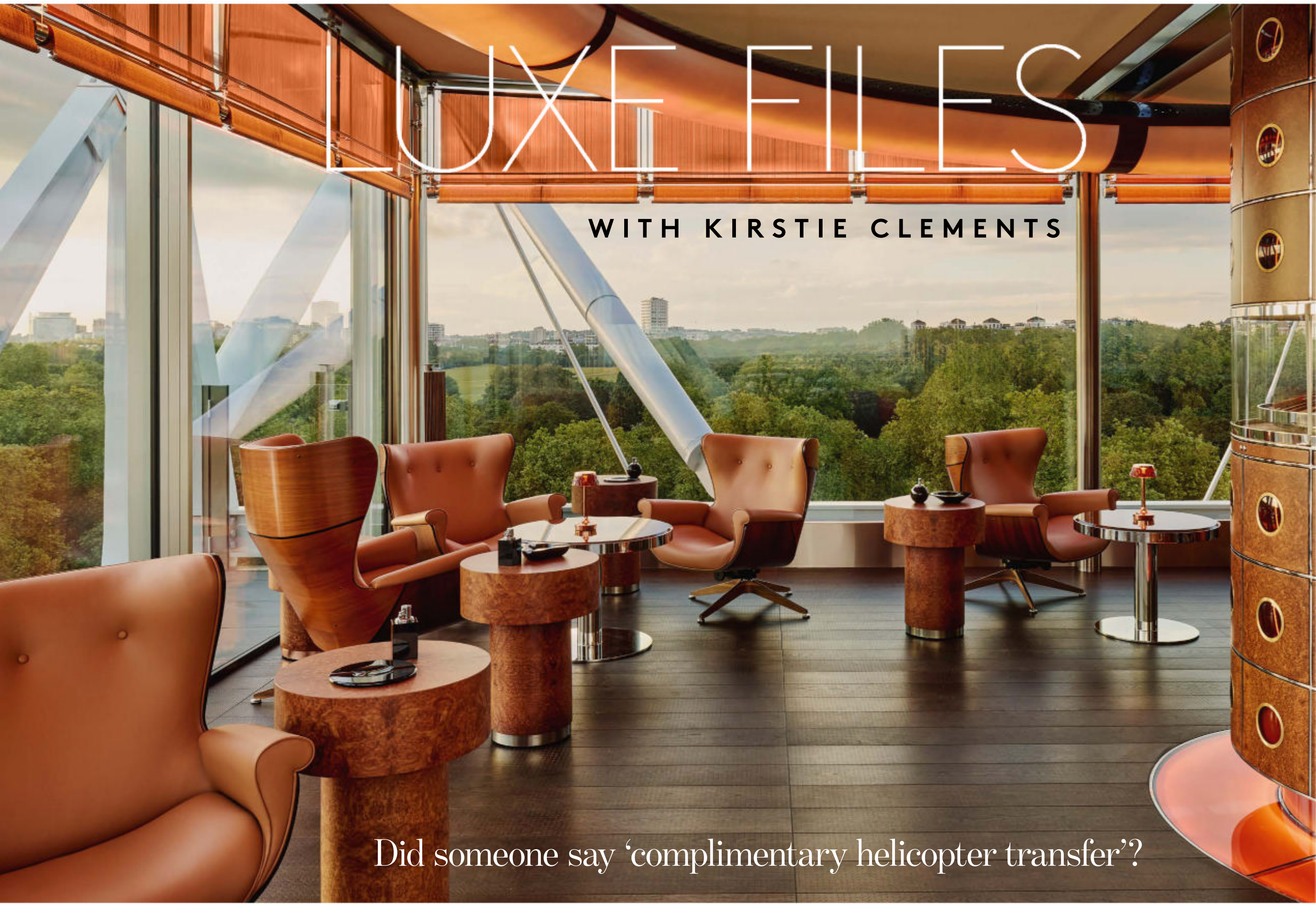
PHOTOGRAPHY XXXXXXX

15_TOTES WOVEN

Stylist and creative director Romy Frydman is behind Kinnon, a curated collection of travel accessories that transports you to another time and place, one of endless summers and global exploration. *kinnon.com*

16_DOUBLE DA ORAZIO

My friend, restaurateur and chef Orazio D'Elia, has announced the next phase of Da Orazio, expanding his iconic Bondi restaurant into the neighbouring space, with the addition of a private dining room. *daorazio.com.au*



LUXE FILES

WITH KIRSTIE CLEMENTS

Did someone say ‘complimentary helicopter transfer’?

London’s Emory Hotel takes luxury to a breathtaking new level.

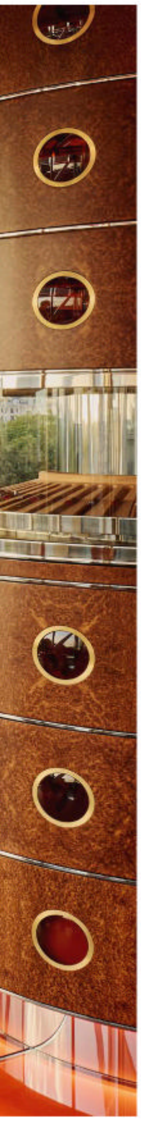
THE EMORY HOTEL in Belgravia opened last year, a gleaming gem from the Maybourne Group, operator of other top London hotels, including Claridge’s, The Connaught and The Berkeley. Overlooking Hyde Park, The Emory is an impressive glass and steel structure, topped with unusual and distinctive ‘sails’, designed by the late Richard Rogers and Ivan Harbour of RSHP. While the building’s facade emphatically says modern London, the guest entrance is through a private cobblestone street off Old Barrack Yard, with all the historic charm that makes London so special.

The hotel refers to its interior aesthetics as ‘quiet luxury’ and the lustrous public spaces designed by Rémi Tessier are a comforting swathe of polished coppers and burnished woods and leathers, making it feel as if you have stepped into a vat of warm, golden honey. That sense is heightened even more when the scent of fresh croissants wafts over from the ground-floor adjacent Cedric Grolet patisserie.

It wouldn’t be London if there wasn’t a Damien Hirst artwork (in this case, a series titled *The Secret Garden Paintings*) and an unconventional feature, such as The Emory’s central steel staircase, which is painted in vivid ‘Richard Rogers Pink’. The Emory is London’s first all-suite hotel, 61 impeccable suites with floor-to-ceiling glass windows set over nine floors, each two floors or so showcasing the work of a different well-known designer, namely André Fu, Pierre-Yves Rochon, Alexandra Champalimaud and Patricia Urquiola, and featuring a 300-square-metre wraparound glass penthouse by Rigby & Rigby.

Every suite is an oasis of tasteful design, bespoke furniture and artfully placed coffee-table books, but there are other well-considered details that set The Emory apart: huge beds; a dedicated hair and make-up station with a stool, magnifying mirror, sensor lighting and Dyson hairdryers and styling tools; fully automated Japanese-style toilet seats; a fully stocked mini bar; and a porcelain tea service with instructions on how to make the perfect brew for each selection.

On the ground floor is the paradoxically glamorous and cosy Emory Bar, designed by Rémi Tessier and featuring a stained-glass installation by artist Brian Clarke, with doors that open onto an outdoor courtyard with shady trees. The chic main restaurant, abc kitchens at The Emory, has introduced chef Jean-Georges Vongerichten’s renowned food to the UK for the first

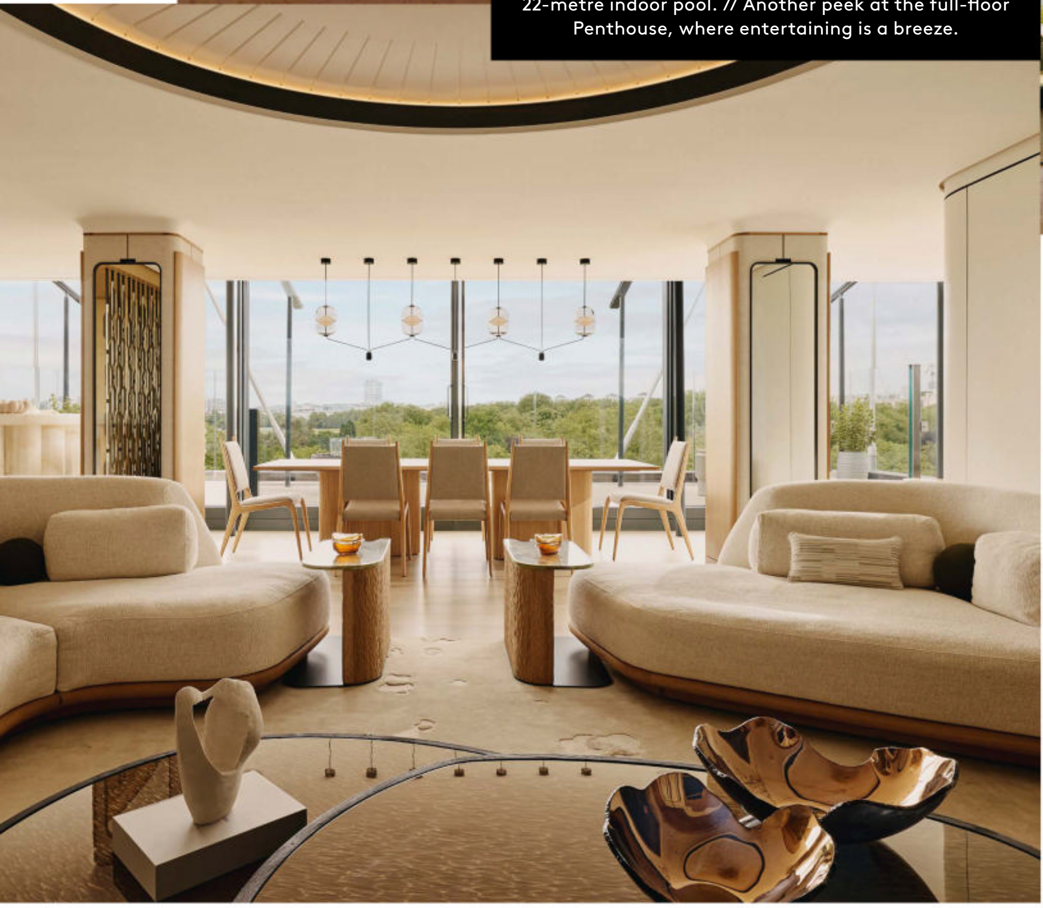


time, the menu drawing on all elements from his famed New York locations and featuring inventive, plant-focused dishes, plus tonics and cocktails. Sip on a spring pea & herb martini, made with a spring pea-infused sapling vodka, Cocchi extra dry vermouth, mint, dill and lemon, and dine on Dorset crab toast, Orkney sea scallop tartare and crisp Dover sole tacos while watching the passing parade through the windows onto Knightsbridge. There is also a swish rooftop venue called The Emory Rooftop Bar and a private club-style meeting space, The Emory Cigar Merchants – two glass 'pavilions' set side by side, with 360-degree views across London and a retractable roof which can be opened during the summer months.

Rémi Tessier, who is known for his private jet and yacht interiors, also designed the incredible subterranean Surrenne wellness space, a private members' club that offers everything from Tracy Anderson Studio fitness classes to scented steam sessions. One treat is a leisurely night swim in the pool by candlelight under the gold-leaf ceiling, with a soothing soundtrack provided by underwater speakers. London is most definitely calling.

Suite rates start at about $3150 per night; the-emory.co.uk

These pages (clockwise from top left) Topping the Modernist-style all-suite hotel is The Emory Cigar Merchants, designed by Rémi Tessier. // There are four floors of health, fitness and beauty services at Surrenne wellness centre. // The Penthouse, which was designed by Rigby & Rigby, is a calm sanctuary overlooking the Hyde Park treetops. // Surrenne also has a generous 22-metre indoor pool. // Another peek at the full-floor Penthouse, where entertaining is a breeze.



LUXE LIST

Edited by **KIRSTIE CLEMENTS**

Hallmarks of British quality and tradition, ready for town and country

1_MOOR PLEASE
Emilia Wickstead's wonderful Resort 2025 collection has a classically British old-school charm with a chic, modern practicality. *emiliawickstead.com*

2_SOFT POWER
Ever-beautiful leather goods brand Mulberry launched in 1971 – named after the trees that founder Roger Saul would pass each day on his way to school in Somerset, England. 'Meadow' shoulder bag in Black Cherry bridge leather. $2995. *mulberry.com*

3_FINE AND DANDY
Established in 1870, London brand Penhaligon's continues its olfactory journey with The Dandy, a 'cocktail of mischief' with notes of whisky, smoke, cedarwood and raspberry. $375 at Penhaligon's QVB in Sydney, David Jones or Myer.

4_RUGGED UP
Morris & Co rugs explore heritage and timelessness, inspired by the iconic designs and colour palettes of William Morris and the Arts and Crafts Movement. The 'Trent Madder Red/Webb's Blue' rug pictured is $3115. *unitexint.com*

5_TEXTILE ROYALTY
'Tamarind' is the latest collection from storied fabric and wallpaper house Colefax & Fowler, retailed through Domus Textiles. Shown in Antique Red. POA. *domustextiles.com.au*

6_FANCY A DRINK?
Visitors to London's West End should make a dash to Lobby Bar at One Aldwych and try a Horseradish Martini with ever-so-British flavours. About $47. *onealdwych.com*

7_SLOW TRAVEL
Belmond has unveiled its first luxury sleeper train in the UK, with journeys commencing in July 2025. *The Britannic Explorer* offers three-night gastronomic trips along a choice of scenic routes from about $11,300pp. *belmond.com*

8

8_KIPPERS FOR KITTY
Fine dining for furry friends is here with Wedgwood's 'Florentine' pet bowl. $379 from Wedgwood, David Jones or Myer.

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by ILSE CRAWFORD

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Photography **MINDI COOKE** Styling **HAYLEY JENKINS**

The store THING

Living in a Brisbane woolstore was a long-held ambition for a couple who wanted a lofty apartment to display all their travel treasures.

WHAT APPEALED TO YOU ABOUT YOUR HOME WHEN YOU BOUGHT IT? The Woolstores form an iconic landmark in Brisbane, and we had always wanted to live in one. When the opportunity arose to purchase an unrenovated apartment in the 'Saratoga' building, we jumped! It was a really unique and functional layout and we knew it would be a great place to call home. Walking in for the first time, the sense of scale with the 3.3-metre ceilings and mammoth beams really wowed us. HOW HAVE YOU UPDATED IT? The apartment hadn't been updated since the building was converted into apartments. It was a mixture of navy blue and cream walls, with 1990s light fixtures and a very dated kitchen. One of the first things we did was have it painted. This lightened the space and instantly gave it a fresh feeling. There are original brick walls running the length of the space, and these had been painted over, so in an ambitious (some might say, foolhardy) idea, we decided to strip back the old paint and reveal the heritage bricks ourselves. The walls were 12 metres long in total, so this took quite some time! We found graffiti from the factory workers in the 1940s and '50s, which was an added bonus. The walls then set the 'mood' for the rest of the works. We chose bold lighting from MCM House for the living and dining areas to take advantage of the high ceilings. We then completely gutted the kitchen, replacing the navy and stainless steel with two incredibly unique slabs of Calacatta Viola marble and sleek white cabinets. We wanted the stone and walls to do all the talking, and for the cabinetry to disappear. We also installed 3.3m-high sheer curtains in the bedrooms to soften the brick and for privacy. IS THERE A COMMON ELEMENT, AESTHETIC OR APPROACH RUNNING THROUGH THE INTERIORS? We describe them as 'collected'. We have been lucky to travel a lot over the 12 years we've been together. These travels, and the pieces we've brought back from them, have really informed our homes and how we live. WHAT DO YOU ENJOY ABOUT LIVING THERE? The sense of scale. The bedrooms are big, the ceilings are high, and the old sash windows are massive. That's rare in apartment living, and beautiful to live with! The location doesn't hurt either – across the road from the river walk and next door to our favourite cafe, Kin! WHICH IS YOUR FAVOURITE ROOM? It's hard to choose, but if we had to, we'd say the kitchen. We are so proud of how it turned out. Everyone congregates around the island and comments on the pattern of the marble. It works beautifully with the exposed brick walls. TELL US ABOUT YOUR ART COLLECTION? We both love art and have

Opposite page Jesse Roebuck and Alastair Emmett in the dining area with their cat, Ferdinand. The dining table was a Facebook Marketplace find and the chairs are from Byron Bay Hanging Chairs. Vase from LRNCE. Pendant light from MCM House. This page (from below) A plinth topped with a jug from Di Lunedi. Artwork by Luke Edward Hall. // Another MCM pendant creates a focal point in the living area. Sofas from Lounge Lovers. Ottoman from James Lane. Cushion covers from Walter G. Abstract artwork on wall by Mitchell Cheesman.

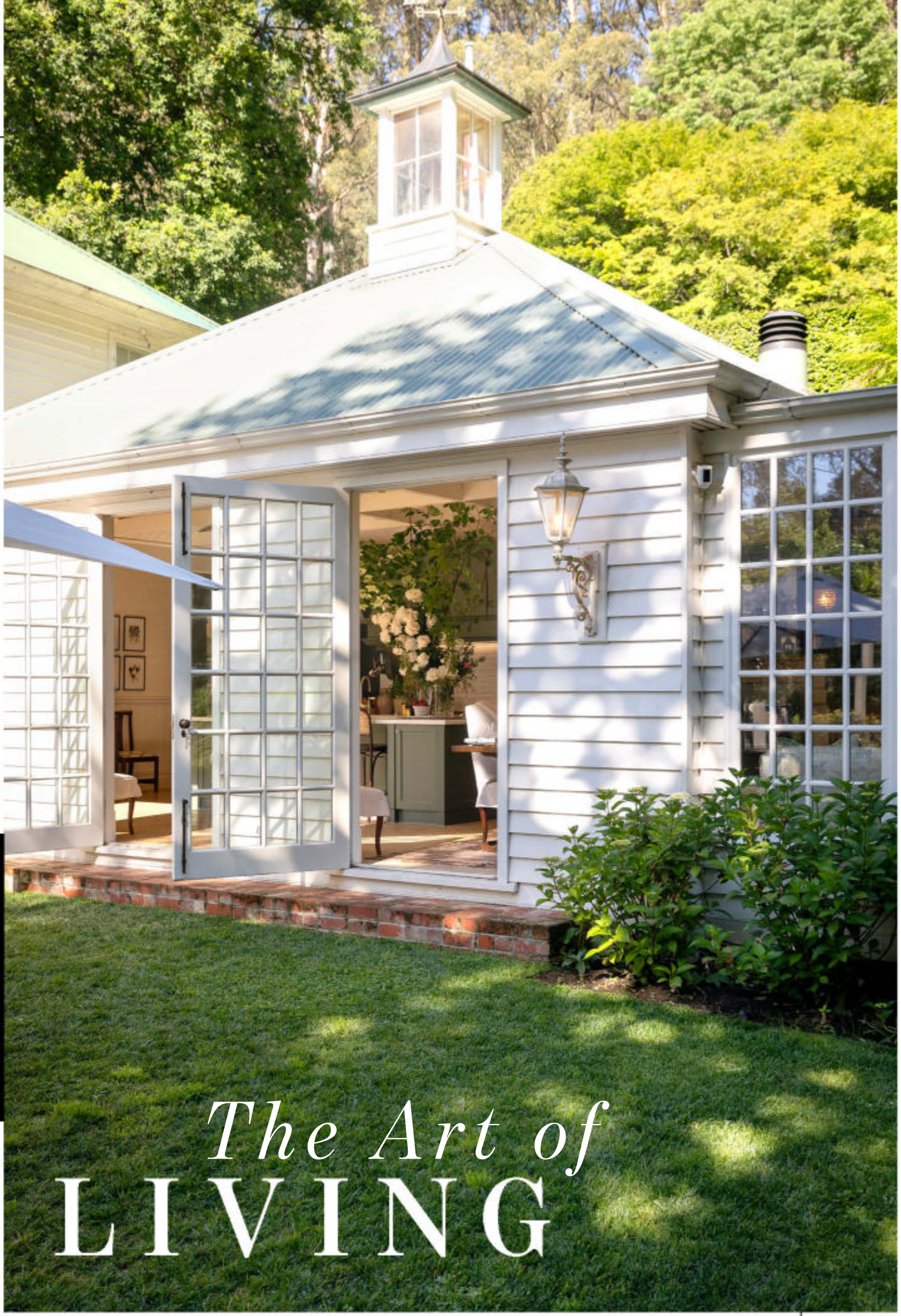
JACQUEMUS
JACQUEMUS

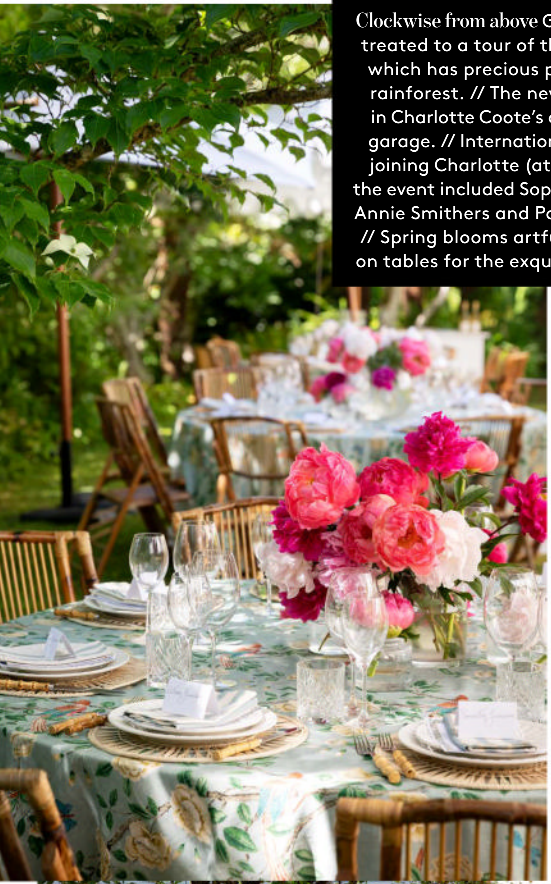
This page (above and below, then right) Calacatta Viola marble adds visual interest in the mostly white kitchen. Sideboard from The White Elephant Brisbane. Vintage stools. Green bowl from Morocco. Brass grinders from The Cool Hunter. Marble vase from Franca Design. Plates and bowls from Di Lunedi. Artwork by Kiata Mason. // In their office, the couple use a Spanish antique dining table as a desk. Brass palm and rug from Morocco. Jug from LRNCE.

pieces from our family and travels, as well as works we have commissioned together. Our favourites are the Mitchell Cheesman, which we commissioned and hangs in the lounge room, and the Zaide Harker above our bed. A few other artists in our collection include Jakey Pedro, Stanislas Piechaczek, Sid Pattni and Kiata Mason. **DO YOU HAVE A WORK-FROM-HOME SET-UP?** It was important to us that our home-office area flowed with the rest of the apartment. We didn't want a standard desk and computer chair set-up. We found an antique Spanish dining table and used that as our desk, positioned in the centre of the room. The space is full of things we've brought back from our travels: a large print from Alastair's business, Outside In, and plants and a rug from a recent trip to Marrakech. It's a lovely place to work in or just hang out. When we have guests who need to stay, we have a sofa bed. **WHAT'S YOUR NEXT PURCHASE?** We are on the hunt for a new piece of art for the dining space. **ANY PROJECTS YOU'RE LOOKING FORWARD TO?** Our home is inspired by travel, so we've just put together a coffee-table book called *Outside In*. It's been so much fun to design and look through our holiday photos. **IF YOU DIDN'T LIVE THERE, WHERE ELSE WOULD YOU LIVE?** We'd always live somewhere that had character; old buildings and houses have more soul, so anything that had history and we could put our stamp on! **WHICH DESIGNERS ARE INSPIRING YOU AT THE MOMENT?** Tamsin Johnson is a constant source of inspiration for us, and how she blends antiques with a modern sensibility is a real talent. *outsidein-co.com*

This page (from above) The artwork over the bed was commissioned from Zaide Harker for the couple's 10th wedding anniversary – it's the spot where they married in France. Exposed brick adds texture to the window wall. Pendant light and bench from FB Marketplace. Chair from Rachel Donath. // The main bedroom's sideboard is also a FB Marketplace find. Lamp bases from Anna Spiro Design; shades from Palm Interiors. // Bathroom accessories include a stool from Hark Interiors and towel from Købn. All flowers from Aster + Wilde.

Photography
MARCEL AUCAR





Clockwise from above Guests were treated to a tour of the garden, which has precious pockets of rainforest. // The new kitchen in Charlotte Coote's converted garage. // International guests joining Charlotte (at right) for the event included Sophie Conran, Annie Smithers and Paul Bangay. // Spring blooms artfully placed on tables for the exquisite lunch.

The Art of LIVING

International guest speakers joined style specialist Charlotte Coote for a masterclass in interiors, gardens, entertaining and food.

Charlotte Coote is the perfect host. The internationally renowned designer who's furnished a hotel or two knows how to make people feel welcome and comfortable, which she did with aplomb at The Art of Living 2024, an annual event that's taken place at her home in Victoria's Mount Macedon for several years.

Following a glass of Pommery on arrival, a series of Range Rovers ferried guests up to the residence, where Charlotte led an exclusive tour of the home and shared valuable insights on some of the beautiful designs. These included The Blue Room living space and the top-to-toe pink room where formal meals are served.

World-famous landscape designer Paul Bangay was next on the program, with a walk through parts of the six-hectare gardens at Marnanie, which Charlotte and her husband, Geordie, have cultivated since acquiring the property once owned by celebrated

floral designers Kevin O'Neill and John Graham. Charlotte actually grew up next door with her famous father, interior designer John Coote.

The Art of Living lunch on the lawn featured a menu of fresh seasonal produce, lovingly prepared by Cookes Food. Chef Annie Smithers, who presides over Du Fermier, a farmhouse-style restaurant in Trentham, then inspired with a cooking demonstration of fuss-free treats to prepare quickly when friends drop round.

This year, the keynote guest speaker was Sophie Conran, the daughter of British designer Terence Conran and an award-winning designer in her own right. She spoke of the legacy of her high-flying father and her 18th-century Georgian home in Salthrop, UK, which she renovated and now entertains in on a regular basis. Sophie's wealth of knowledge was a delight, and guests were invited to stay for the final segment of the day, the panel of all four speakers discussing their careers.

High tea was served afterwards, a fitting end to a stunning day of all that makes life well lived.

Clockwise from top The sitting room at Marnanie. // Charlotte in full swing. // Strawberries and cream for dessert. // Guests in the greenhouse. // The Blue Room. // In line with her philosophy of simplicity and sustainability when it comes to food, Annie Smithers encouraged her audience to focus on nourishing the people they cook for rather than impressing them, which should go a long way to making any dinner party or lunch a success.

Special DELIVERY

Exclusive collaborations with new German makers will add another dimension to Top3 by Design's already unique retail offering.

Words **STEPHANIE HOPE** Portrait **TARAK KAZAL**

EVEN WITH 23 YEARS OF DESIGN CURATION under her belt, Terri Winter still does a little happy dance every time a new shipment of products arrives at her company's warehouse in Sydney. The design-loving entrepreneur and founder of Top3 by Design has built a reputation for sourcing quality gifts, accessories, objects and furniture – many of them from Europe – to enhance everyday life. In particular, Scandinavian brands Audo Copenhagen, Muuto and Normann Copenhagen have become firm customer favourites, thanks to their timeless design and functionality.

So, imagine Terri's excitement recently when a new shipment arrived from Germany. Comprising high-end furniture pieces from some of Europe's most lauded design houses, it marked the beginning of a new German Masters range that will sit alongside Top3 by Design's existing collection and add yet another string to the beloved brand's bow.

"We've noticed a growing demand for luxurious statement pieces," says Terri. "In answer, we discovered three exceptional German brands: Freifrau, Janua and Möller Design. Their impeccable craftsmanship and distinctive style offer a premium option for our discerning clients while enhancing the variety and depth of our design portfolio."

While still considered relative newcomers in the world of furniture design, the three brands mentioned above have built up an impressive portfolio of intuitive, individualised and sustainable items, and are making a compelling mark on the design scene. "Freifrau's low dining concept pairs the cosy 'Mia' sofa with one of Janua's adjustable dining tables, offering a seamless fusion of lounging and dining," Terri explains.

Clockwise from top The ultimate crowd-pleaser – a Freifrau 'Leyasol' swing seat in Blue, $7490, makes a striking statement. // Take mealtimes up a notch with the Janua 'Basket' table in American walnut with brass base, $22,700, and the Freifrau 'Nana' armchair in Dedar 'Nimbus' bouclé fabric, $3185. // The Draenert 'Paramount' table by Gino Carollo, from $25,380. // Möller Design 'Rag Box' chest with three drawers, $4800. // A slimline Rolf Benz 'Mera' sofa in a corner configuration converts to a laid-back lounge chair with a simple mechanism. **Opposite page** Terri Winter rests on the Draenert 'Atlas' stone dining table in a Belvedere leathered finish, $31,880, next to the Freifrau 'Leya' swing seat in Adora leather, $9345.

"This innovative approach not only enhances relaxation but optimises space – a game-changer for urban living. Customers have embraced the 'life-proof' durability of these designs."

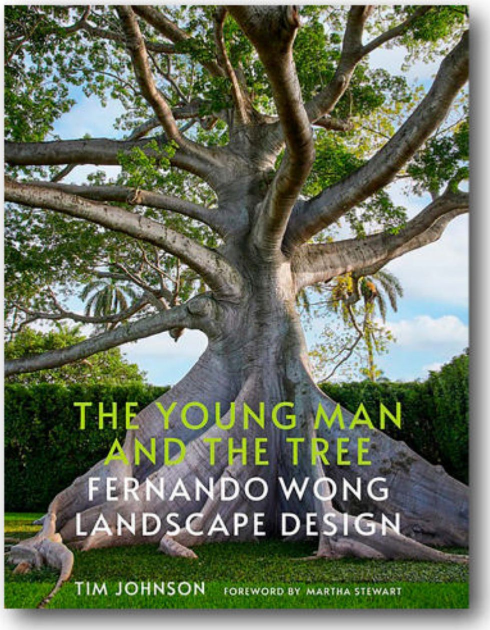
Adding breadth to the collection are esteemed heritage brands Rolf Benz and Draenert. The exquisitely crafted sofas of Rolf Benz have long been a staple in many of Europe's finest hotels and homes, while the folding and revolving stone tables of Draenert are an impressive feat of engineering. "We've also added Decor Walther, Germany's finest bathroom accessories brand, and Bordbar, an innovative Cologne-based range of new and upcycled aircraft trolleys," adds Terri.

While all of the collection can be viewed online, Terri says it's best experienced in person, at either of the Top3 by Design showrooms in Sydney and Melbourne. "It's such a joy to see the reactions when we demonstrate pieces like the Rolf Benz 'Mera' sofa, invite customers to relax in a Freifrau swing seat or showcase the ease of moving a 300-kilogram Draenert natural stone table with just two fingers," she says. "Hearing customers exclaim, 'Wow, I've never seen anything like that!' perfectly encapsulates the excitement that these designs bring." *top3.com.au; @top3bydesign*

Dream works

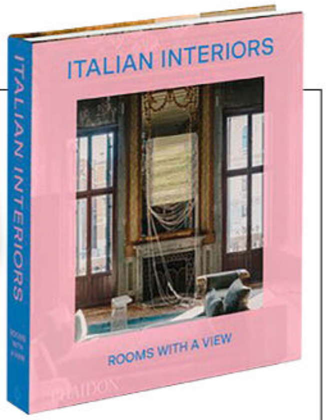
Interiors to make the spirits soar.

Edited by **JUDY PASCOE**


THE YOUNG MAN AND THE TREE
FERNANDO WONG LANDSCAPE DESIGN
TIM JOHNSON
FOREWORD BY MARTHA STEWART

THE YOUNG MAN AND THE TREE

With a definite predilection for tropical gardens, Miami-based landscape designer Fernando Wong has created a veritable cornucopia of desirable outdoor spaces expertly captured in this book. Fernando's focus isn't just on plants but, as well, fountains, follies, pools, sculptures and outdoor kitchens all benefit from his magical touch. *Tim Johnson, Vendome Press, $130*


ITALIAN INTERIORS
ROOMS WITH A VIEW
PHAIDON

ITALIAN INTERIORS: ROOMS WITH A VIEW

The universal love affair with all things Italian is enhanced with this book's gentle rendering of the country's distinctive design aesthetic, exploring a range of styles from historic Venetian palaces and sun-splashed villas in Sicily to contemporary apartments in Milan. Many never-before-photographed residences from stellar design names illustrate Italy's design brilliance. Laura May Todd, Phaidon, $100

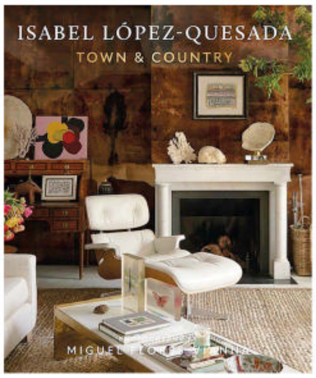
Michael S. Smith
CLASSIC BY DESIGN
WITH Andrew Ferren
FOREWORD BY Shonda Rhimes
Rizzoli

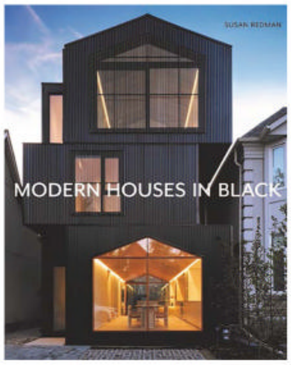
CLASSIC BY DESIGN

For his first book in 10 years, celebrated US designer Michael S Smith has mined his extensive range of projects and selected an assemblage that harnesses his coveted blend of practicality and luxury. In addition to the brilliance of such properties as a Moroccan-themed Mallorcan retreat and a Manhattan penthouse, he has shared two of his own homes in this 272-page volume, including a wondrous Madrid apartment in a 19th-century palace. *Michael S Smith, Rizzoli, $170*

TOWN & COUNTRY

The global reach of Madrid-based designer Isabel López-Quesada is impressive, with commissions throughout Europe, the US, the UK and Japan. For her second book, the in-demand creative has concentrated on her work in diverse locations such as Lisbon, Manhattan, the Dominican Republic and the Caribbean, where her blend of luxury and personality finds full expression. Magnificently photographed by Miguel Flores-Vianna. *Isabel López-Quesada, Vendome, $130*


ISABEL LÓPEZ-QUESADA
TOWN & COUNTRY
MIGUEL FLORES-VIANNA


SUSAN REDMAN
MODERN HOUSES IN BLACK

MODERN HOUSES IN BLACK

Black is always a standout and it is increasingly gathering favour as a house colour. Whether in Chile, Australia, Sweden or Thailand, contemporary architects, designers and homeowners are opting for the drama that is inherent in an all-black abode. In this book are 28 projects, some contrasting perfectly with their snowy or green locations. *Susan Redman, Images Publishing, $69.99*

Pierre Sauvage
How They Entertain
At Home with the Tastemakers
Flammarion

HOW THEY ENTERTAIN: AT HOME WITH THE TASTEMAKERS

The author of *Be My Guest* returns with another insider's view of the hosting styles of international trendsetters. From the whimsical beauty of accessories maven Rebecca de Ravenel's tablescapes at her Estoril escape to the paradoxical world crafted by American decorator Remy Renzullo in his London pad, there's a hospitality and styling masterclass on every page. *Pierre Sauvage, Flammarion, $110*

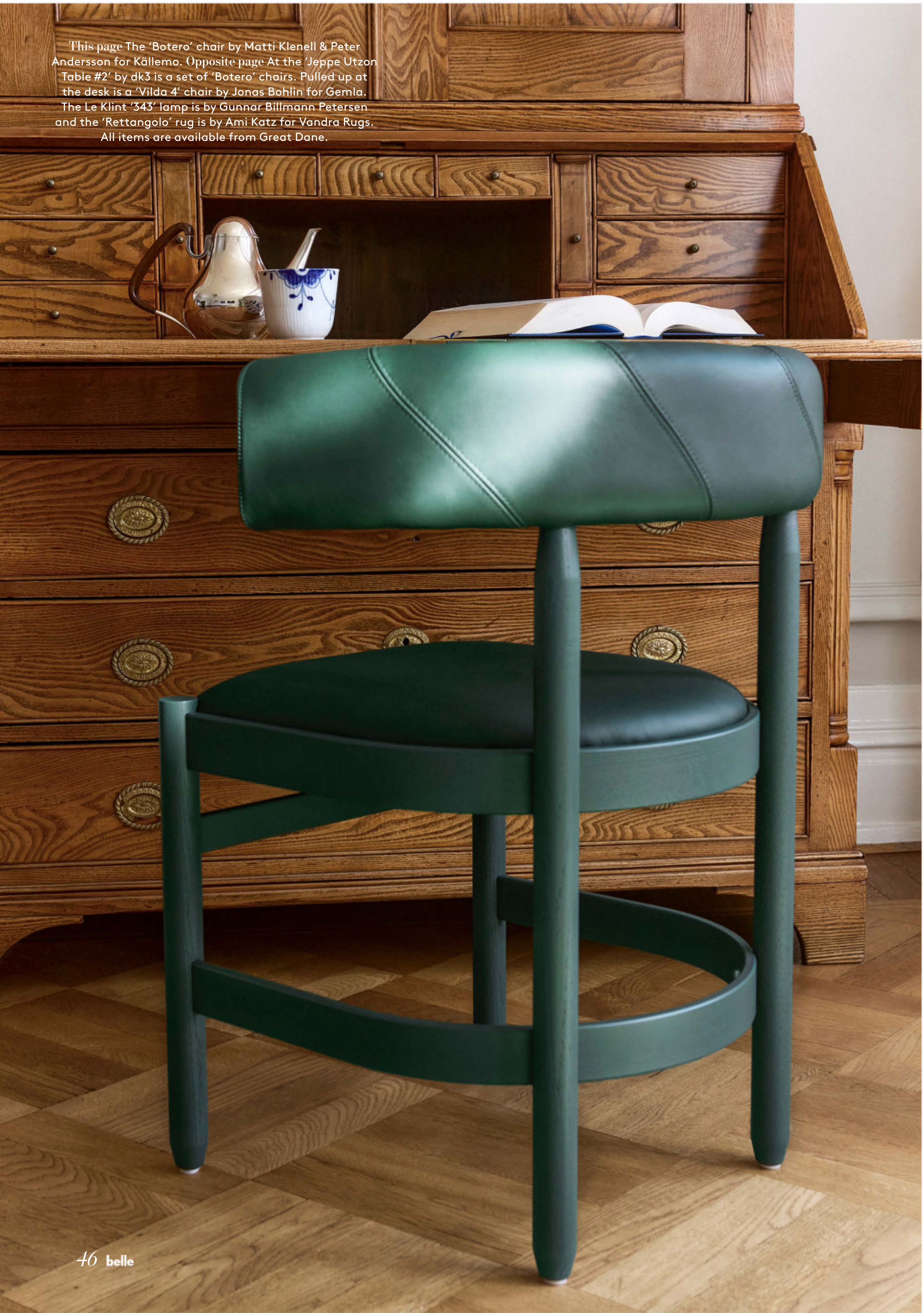
Design
COLLECTIVE 2025
COMPTON
T15. 76.3
TURNING TAUPE
T15. 109.2
JACKAL
T15. 32.7
CRISP WHITE
T15. 3.1

Continuity at your fingertips.

Inject tones and colours that flow from one product to the next.

Five tiles, infinite possibilities. Paired with Taubmans' curated colour palettes and integrated into Blend Concrete Design's furniture. The selected colours are modelled here by Zane Carter Architects and styled by Casabela Interiors. This "toolkit" empowers renovators, builders, designers, and architects to infuse synergy into every space without overwhelming the senses. To find out more about the how it works, scan the code or contact any of the partners.

KAOLIN® TAUBMANS® blend. CONCRETE DESIGN ZANE CARTER ARCHITECTS CASABELA INTERIORS

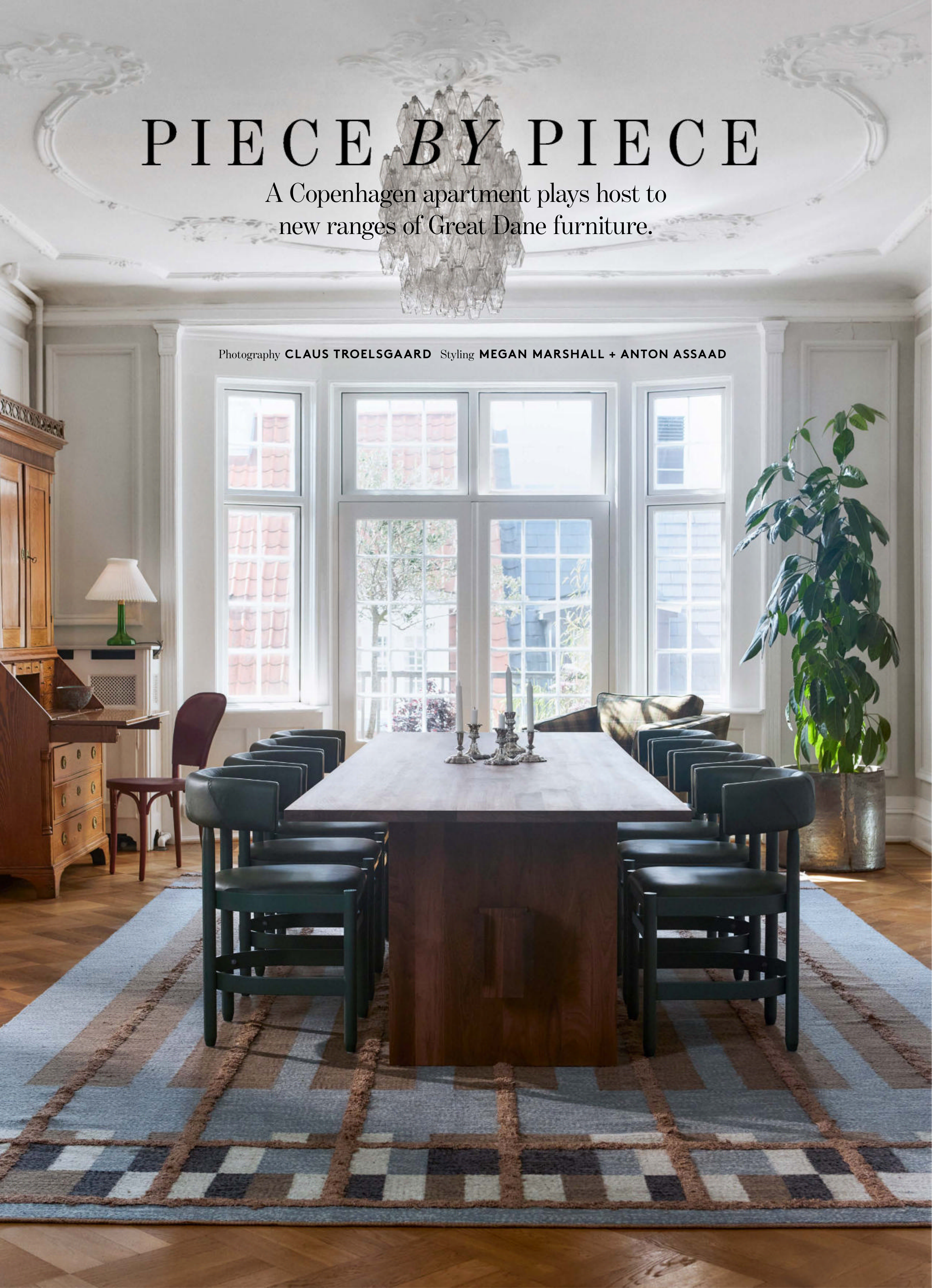


This page The 'Botero' chair by Matti Klenell & Peter Andersson for Källemo. Opposite page At the 'Jeppe Utzon Table #2' by dk3 is a set of 'Botero' chairs. Pulled up at the desk is a 'Vilda 4' chair by Jonas Bohlin for Gemla. The Le Klint '343' lamp is by Gunnar Billmann Petersen and the 'Rettangolo' rug is by Ami Katz for Vandra Rugs. All items are available from Great Dane.

PIECE *BY* PIECE

A Copenhagen apartment plays host to new ranges of Great Dane furniture.

Photography **CLAUS TROELSGAARD** Styling **MEGAN MARSHALL + ANTON ASSAAD**



Following the excitement of Copenhagen's highly regarded 3daysofdesign festival in mid-2024, Great Dane collaborated with its exclusive suppliers and makers to style an entire apartment for a shoot featuring new and classic Great Dane products. The apartment had high ceilings, large casement windows and beautifully crafted details, which perfectly embodies the company's holistic vision and commitment to bespoke design. **WERE THERE ANY CHALLENGES ASSOCIATED WITH THE LOCATION?** The apartment is in an historic district, Hammerhoj, so the crew had to navigate the cobblestones and many staircases of downtown Copenhagen to bring the vision to life. Central to the operation's success was a fearless team of logistics partners and delivery crew. **WHAT IS THE BACKGROUND TO THE SHOOT?** For almost 25 years, we've been pushing the boundaries of what it means to be a brand with integrity, heritage and true design. This photo shoot was the ideal expression of that. We planned the three-day shoot for about two years. It took place the week after 3daysofdesign, when the city was still experiencing a captivating energy. **WHO WAS INVOLVED IN THE PROJECT?** Megan Marshall, Great Dane's creative director, was front and centre of the busy operation. She worked closely with the photographer – Claus Troelsgaard – and esteemed Scandinavian suppliers to produce a series of unique variations for the Australian market. This includes all sorts of fabric choices and leather types as well as timber finishes. We also worked with the archives of many suppliers to reintroduce exclusive pieces into production. **IS CLAUS WELL-KNOWN?** Yes, he's a photographer and visual artist based in Copenhagen. He recently captured renowned UK architect John Pawson's home in the Cotswolds, and has worked on projects ranging from high-end hotels to museums. **TELL US ABOUT YOUR COMMITMENT TO CRAFT** Great Dane has a passion for Scandinavian design and we're all about connecting and empowering craftspeople. Our designers include the legendary Hans Wegner, Nanna Ditzel and JL Møller, as well as contemporary creators such as Ilse Crawford, Sofie Refer, Antrei Hartikainen and Hästens, who we've partnered with. Our philosophy is grounded in natural materiality, form and function. Each piece is designed with integrity and a view to lasting a lifetime. **CAN YOU ELABORATE ON THE NEW PRODUCTS?** Källemo and Vandra Rugs are two new makers for Great Dane. We are excited by them because they share our ethos of craftsmanship and the use of natural materials. The 'Botero' armchair was designed by Peter Andersson and Matti Klenell

This page (clockwise from top) A 'Vita' sofa and 'Ring' chair by Nanna Ditzel for Getama form a sitting area with a red 'Klassik' sofa by Great Dane. The lamp is the 'Model 328' by Aurélien Barbry for Le Klint. // The 'Klassik' armchair and footstool by Great Dane in another corner. 'Curvy' stool by Studio Pneuma. // The classic 'Ring' chair by Nanna Ditzel for Getama is available in Oak or Walnut. Opposite page Another angle of the dining area, revealing artworks by Absalon Kirkeby.

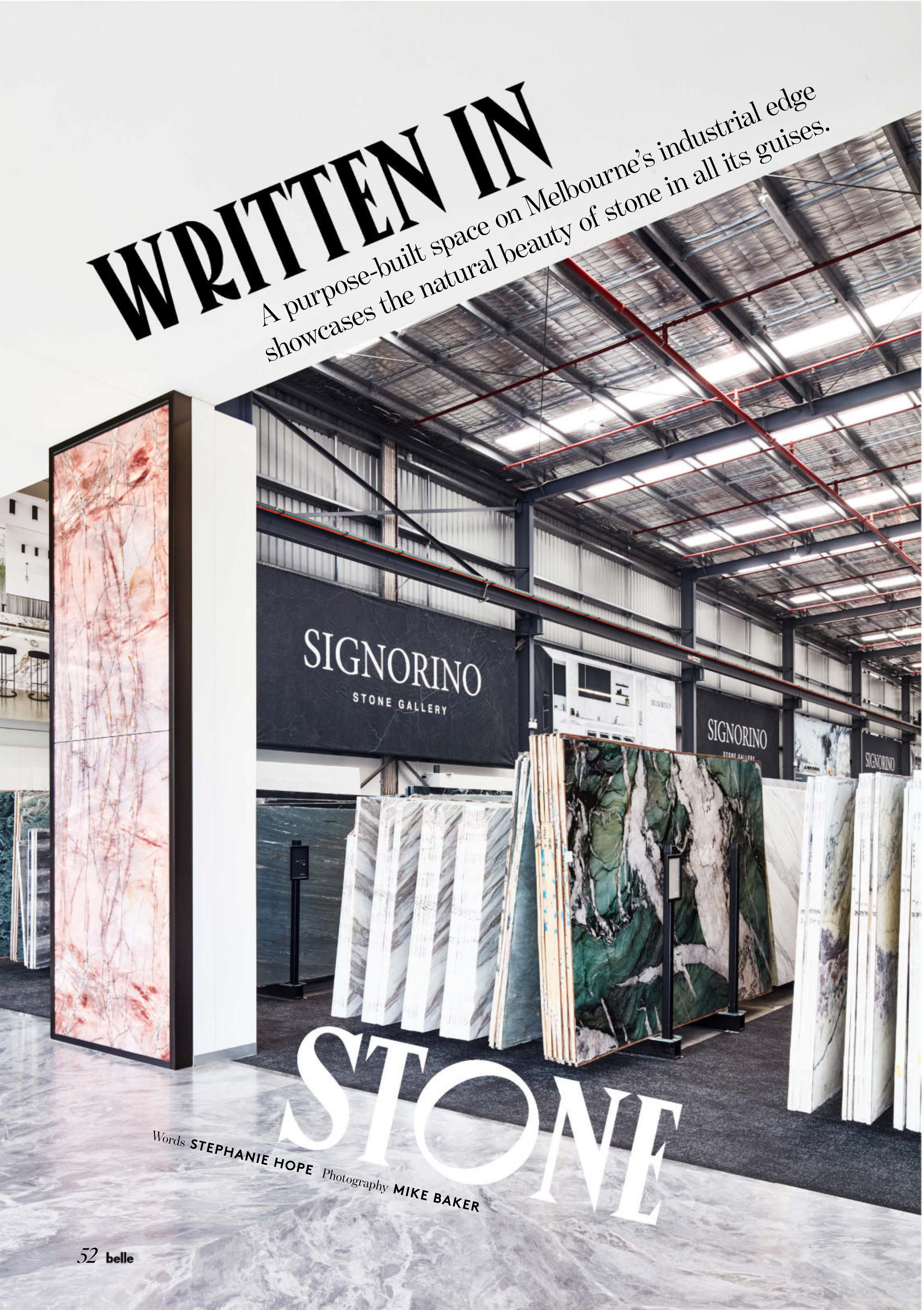
This page (clockwise from top left) A ‘Johansen Oval’ table and ‘Møller 77’chairs, which are exclusive to Great Dane. The ‘Spalje Primo’ rug is by Ami Katz for Vandra Rugs. // A close-up of the ‘Johansen Oval’ table and ‘Møller 77’ chair. // ‘Vilda 4’ chairs by Jonas Bohlin for Gemla. ‘Nordic’ rug by Lars Nilsson for Vandra Rugs. ‘Kolonn’ vase by Carina Seth Andersson for Skrufs Glasbruk. **Opposite page** The ‘Klassik’ sofa with ‘Klassik’ chair and footstool, all by Great Dane. ‘GA2’ chair by Gunnar Asplund for Källemo. Oil-on-canvas by Danish artist Kaspar Bonnén. All items, except artworks, are available from Great Dane.

for Källemo in 2018, to furnish the reopening of the National Museum in Stockholm. It’s made with a solid ash or oak frame, with a seat and back upholstered in fabric or leather. Vanda Rugs is based in Southern Ukraine and employs and empowers women, fostering job opportunities and skill development. The brand minimises environmental impact by producing made-to-order rugs and using high-quality, sustainable materials, including non-dyed, non-coloured and recycled options. Another new product featured in the shoot was the ‘Jeppe Utzon Table #2’. It’s an exclusive solid-wood table created for dk3 by Danish designer and architect Jeppe Utzon, the grandson of Jørn Utzon, who created the Sydney Opera House. The table has clear references to the traditional Danish interpretation of the Shaker style and has a focus on simple, functional design. ARE ALL THE ITEMS IN THE SHOOT NOW AVAILABLE TO BUY? Yes, and many are shown in leather from a tannery called Tärnsjö Garveri. All of the makers we work with either have a tradition of using Tärnsjö or have begun to use Tärnsjö with our direction because their products focus on the craft of vegetable-tanned leather. The end result provides a uniquely handcrafted touch and patina, akin to the way a beautiful leather handbag ages. Integrity and environmental awareness are key to their craft. The cattle are local and Tärnsjö employs a very laborious vegetable tanning technique involving bark extracts, water and water-based finishing, used by only five per cent of tanneries in the world. WILL YOU BE DOING A SHOOT LIKE THIS AGAIN? This was a really ambitious project, with years of planning and coordination. We hope to do it again in future, but it will take time to find an equally special location. *greatdanefurniture.com*

WRITTEN IN STONE

A purpose-built space on Melbourne's industrial edge showcases the natural beauty of stone in all its guises.

Words **STEPHANIE HOPE** Photography **MIKE BAKER**


SIGNORINO
STONE GALLERY
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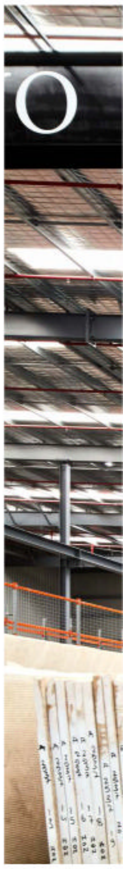
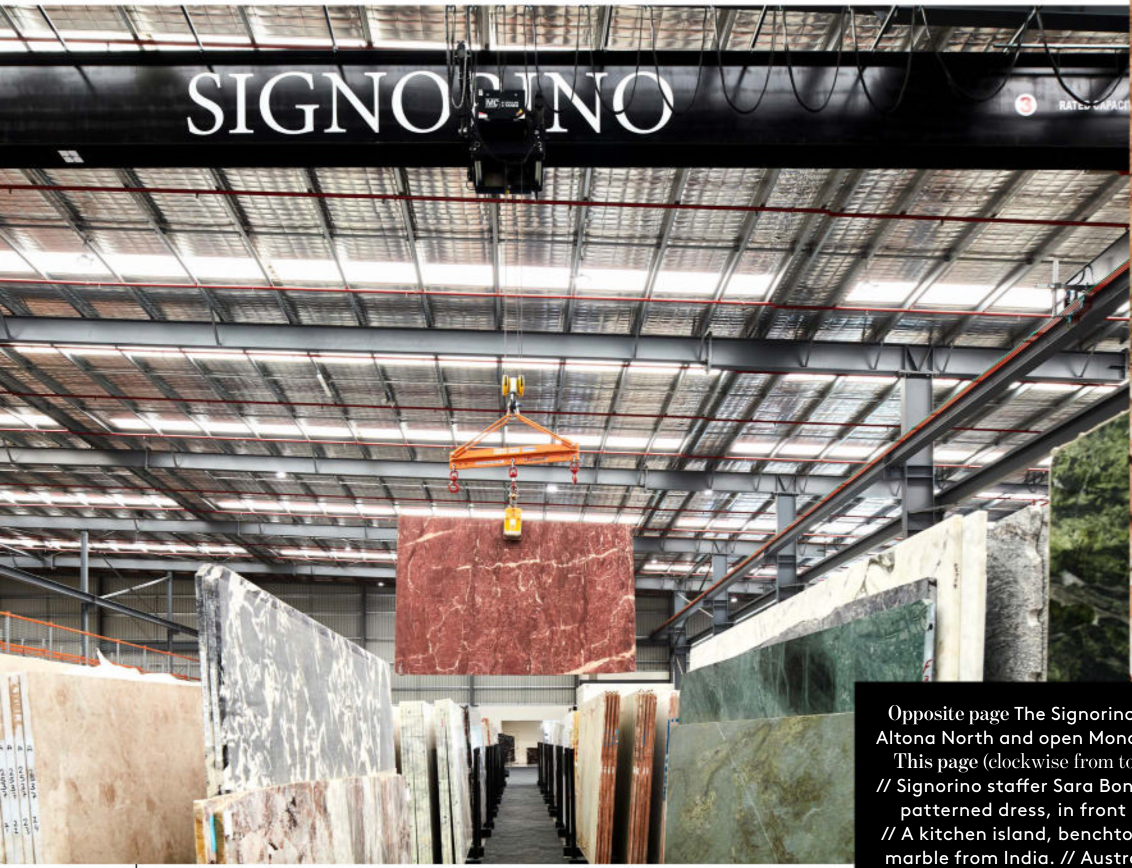
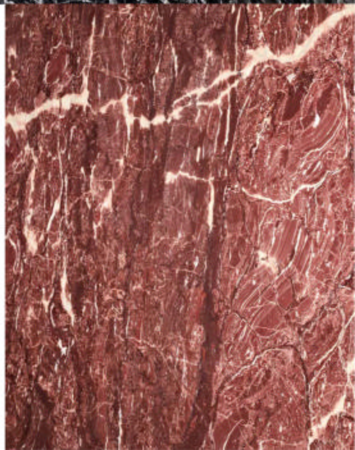
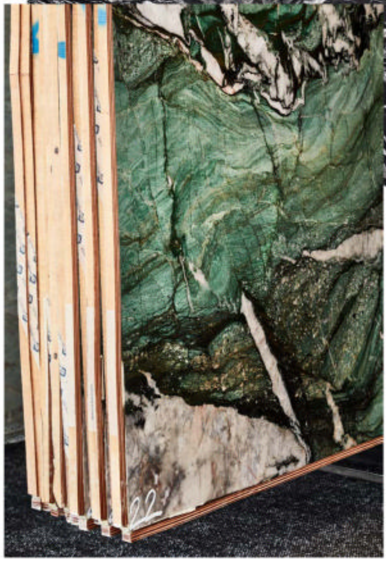




Opposite page The Signorino Stone Gallery is in Melbourne's Altona North and open Monday to Saturday by appointment. This page (clockwise from top left) Inside the Stone Gallery. // Signorino staffer Sara Bonometti in a Palomino Quartzite-patterned dress, in front of the aforementioned stone. // A kitchen island, benchtop and splashback in Silver Wave marble from India. // Austral Red dolomite is an Australian material. // Verde Pangea Quartzite hails from Brazil.





WHETHER YOU'RE AFTER a veiny slab of Calacatta marble for a kitchen benchtop or a petite portion of translucent Pink Onyx for the handles of a wardrobe, there's a fairly good chance the perfect piece of stone will be found at the Signorino Stone Gallery in Melbourne's Altona North. The vast 12,000-square-metre warehouse is home to more than 12,500 pieces of hand-selected stone, displayed in raw, large-slab formats and arranged in aisles for easy viewing. Purpose-built cranes hover overhead, ready to swoop down and hold up different slabs from the same block for inspection, to help customers find their favourite. "With natural stone, no two slabs will ever be the same," says the gallery's manager, Louie Kyriakouleas. "The beauty comes in selecting something for your home that no one else will have."

The brainchild of Signorino founder and managing director John Signorino, this state-of-the-art facility was built in 2015 and underwent an expansion in 2022, making it the largest stone gallery in the southern hemisphere. But don't be intimidated by its size, says Louie. "Despite being a warehouse, it doesn't have a warehouse feel at all. Signorino has always viewed natural stone like a work of art, so we knew we had to design the Stone Gallery like an art gallery, with an experienced team to walk our clients through the range."

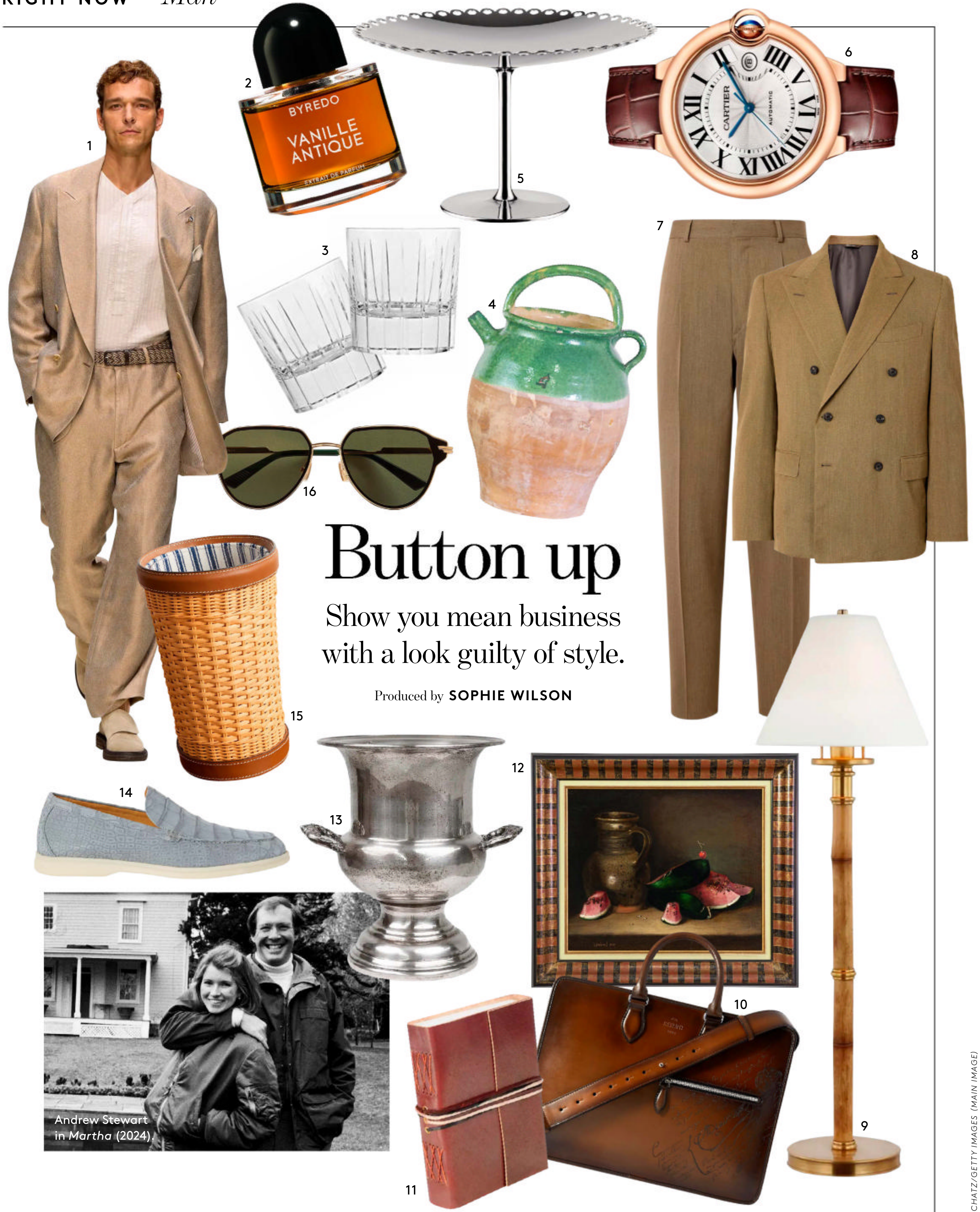
You'll see natural stone at every turn – herringbone New Grey Tundra tiles as you arrive, Grigio Versilia natural stone tiles in the foyer, a coffee area adorned with book-matched Calacatta Verde, and natural stone vanities in the bathrooms. While it's tricky to choose a favourite, Louie lists Calacatta marbles, Tundra limestones and warm travertines as the perennial sellers, adding, "The bold and colourful exotics are also having a surge in popularity, including quartzites and onyx that can be backlit as a special feature."

And with John Signorino recently entering retirement, his passion for stone now lives on in this gallery, says Louie. "He helped turn tiles and stone from commodities into fashionable items, and we continue to honour his legacy through our state-of-the-art showrooms and premium products."
signorino.com.au; @signorinotilegallery

Button up

Show you mean business with a look guilty of style.

Produced by **SOPHIE WILSON**



Andrew Stewart in *Martha* (2024)

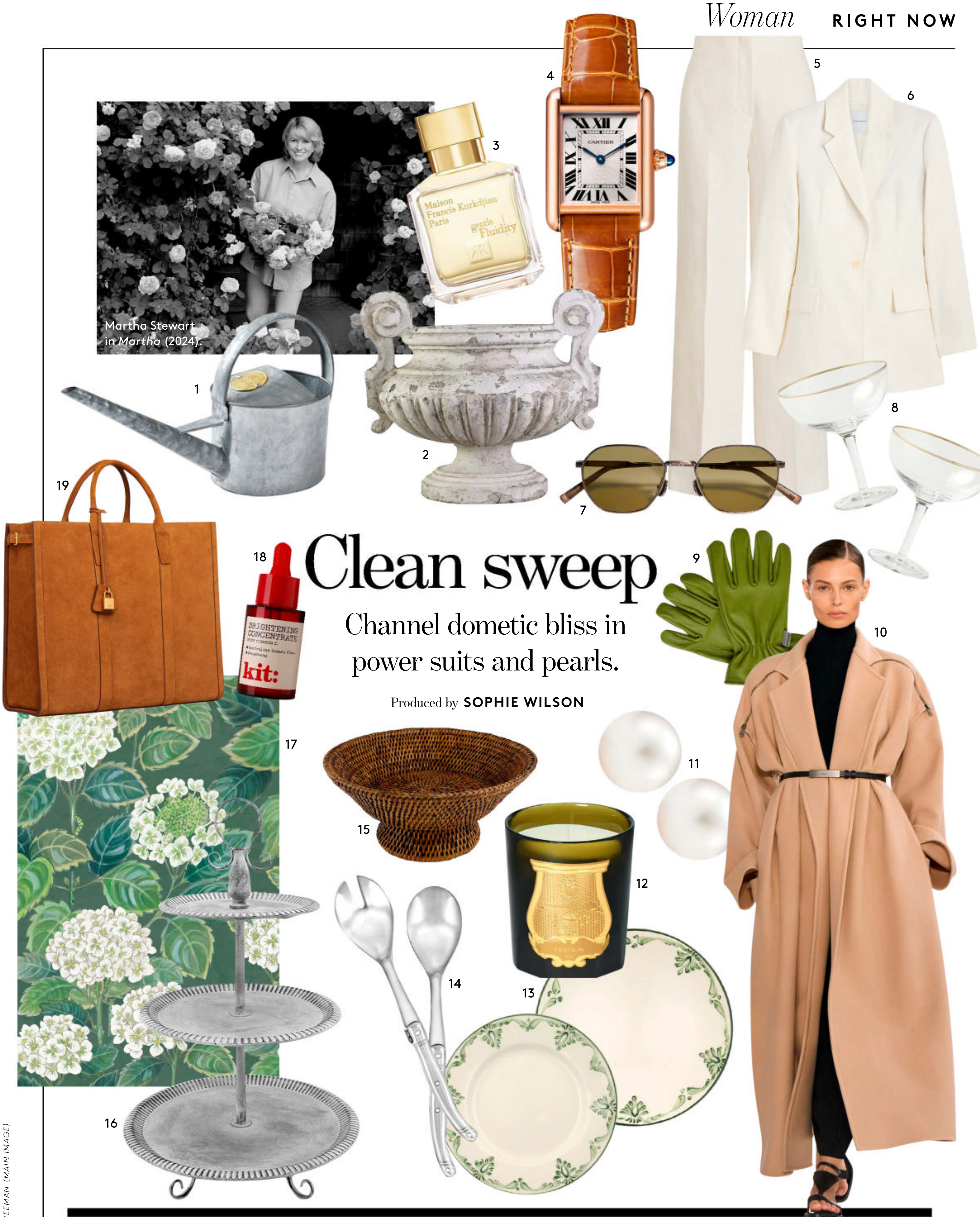
1 Giorgio Armani Men's Collection Spring/Summer 2025. 2 Byredo 'Vanille Antique' **extrait de parfum**, $539, Mecca. 3 Christofle old-fashioned **glasses** in Iriana Crystal, $590 for two, Palmer & Penn. 4 Antique terracotta **water/wine jug**, $490, The Vault Sydney. 5 Alessi 'Edges' **cake stand**, $294, Farfetch. 6 'Ballon Bleu De Cartier' **watch**, $28,600, Cartier. 7 Loro Piana pleated wool-twill **suit trousers** in Beige, $2193, Mr Porter. 8 Loro Piana double-breasted **suit jacket** in Beige, $7587, Mr Porter. 9 Ralph Lauren 'Dalfern' **desk lamp**, POA, Palmer & Penn. 10 Berluti '2 Jour Neo Scritto' **briefcase**, $7843, Mr Porter. 11 Paper High leather **journal**, $70, HardtoFind. 12 *Still Life with Watermelon* **painting** by Jean-Jacques Deleval, $2850, The Vault Sydney. 13 Mid-century French **champagne bucket**, $1583, 1stDibs. 14 'Summer Walk' alligator **moccasins**, about $15,434, Loro Piana. 15 Ralph Lauren 'Bailey' **vase**, $547, Mr Porter. 16 'Glaze' aviator **sunglasses**, $895, Bottega Veneta.

PHOTOGRAPHY: ARTHUR SCHATZ/GETTY IMAGES (MAIN IMAGE)

Clean sweep

Channel dometic bliss in power suits and pearls.

Produced by **SOPHIE WILSON**



Martha Stewart in *Martha* (2024).

1 Burgon & Ball **watering can** by Sophie Conran, $49, Backyard Botanist. 2 Composite **stone urn**, $1850, The Vault Sydney. 3 'Gentle Fluidity' **eau de parfum** in Gold, $207, Mecca. 4 'Tank Louis Cartier' **watch**, $19,000, Cartier. 5 Linen **trousers**, $500, Scanlan Theodore. 6 Linen **jacket**, $850, Scanlan Theodore. 7 'Intarsia Rays' **sunglasses**, $1237, Brunello Cucinelli. 8 Bitossi **champagne glasses**, $250 for six, Emporean. 9 Barebones **work gloves**, $38, Backyard Botanist. 10 Max Mara Spring Summer 2025. 11 Signature **pearl earrings**, from $840, Tiffany & Co. 12 Trudon 'Tuileries' **candle**, $159, Libertine Parfumerie. 13 'Eleanor' **dinner plate** and **bowl**, $495 for six bowls, Emporean. 14 Laguiole 'Silhouette' **salad servers**, $55, Myer. 15 Rattan **bowl**, $54.95, Alfresco Emporium. 16 'Gallegos' **cake stand**, $190, Temple & Webster. 17 'Hydrangea Garden' **wallpaper**, $499 for two rolls, Milton & King. 18 Kit **brightening concentrate**, $37, Mecca. 19 Suede leather **cabas** in Pecan, $5100, Celine.

PHOTOGRAPHY: DON FREEMAN (MAIN IMAGE)

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Photography: Tom Ferguson.

SMART SPACES

Designers showcase the best of their latest renovated and remodelled projects.

This page A country cottage in Barwon, Victoria, had its original charm restored by Greg Natale. Steps in Verde Guatemala marble. Tiles from Renditions Tiles. Lanterns by Ralph Lauren. Furniture from Classic With A Twist.

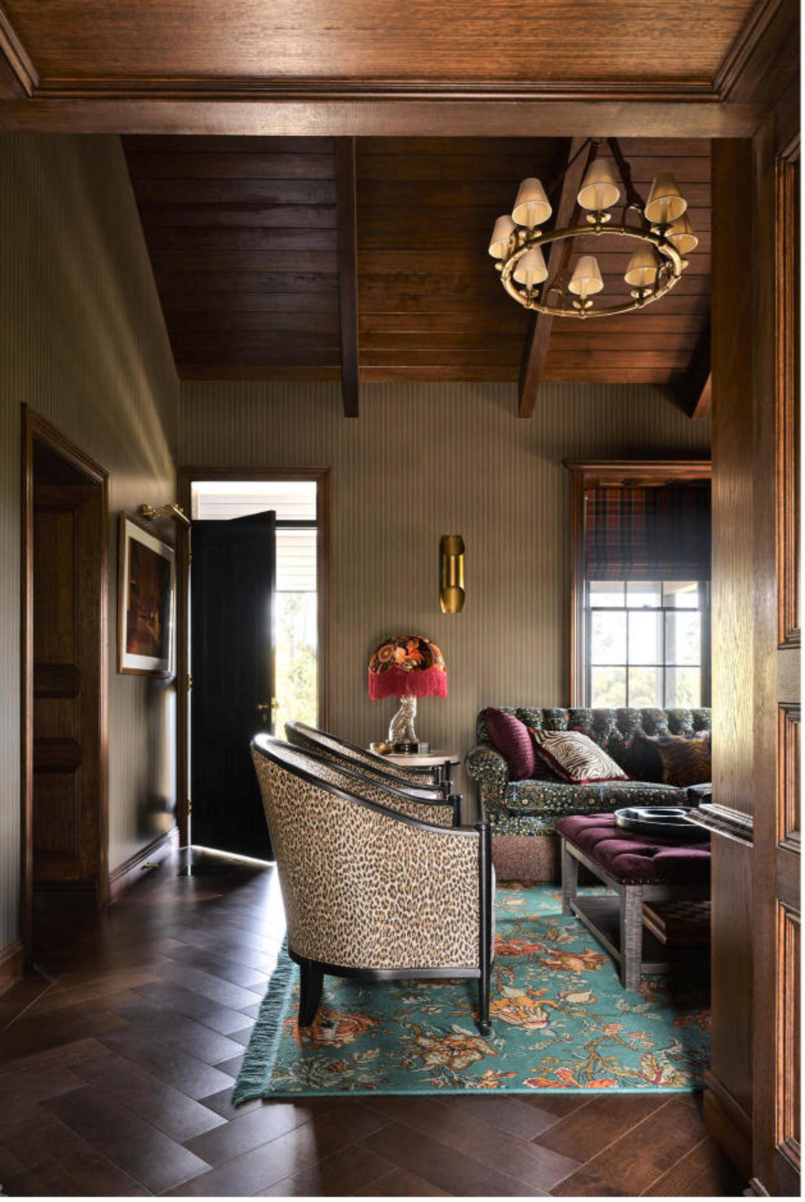
PHOTOGRAPHY: ANSON SMART

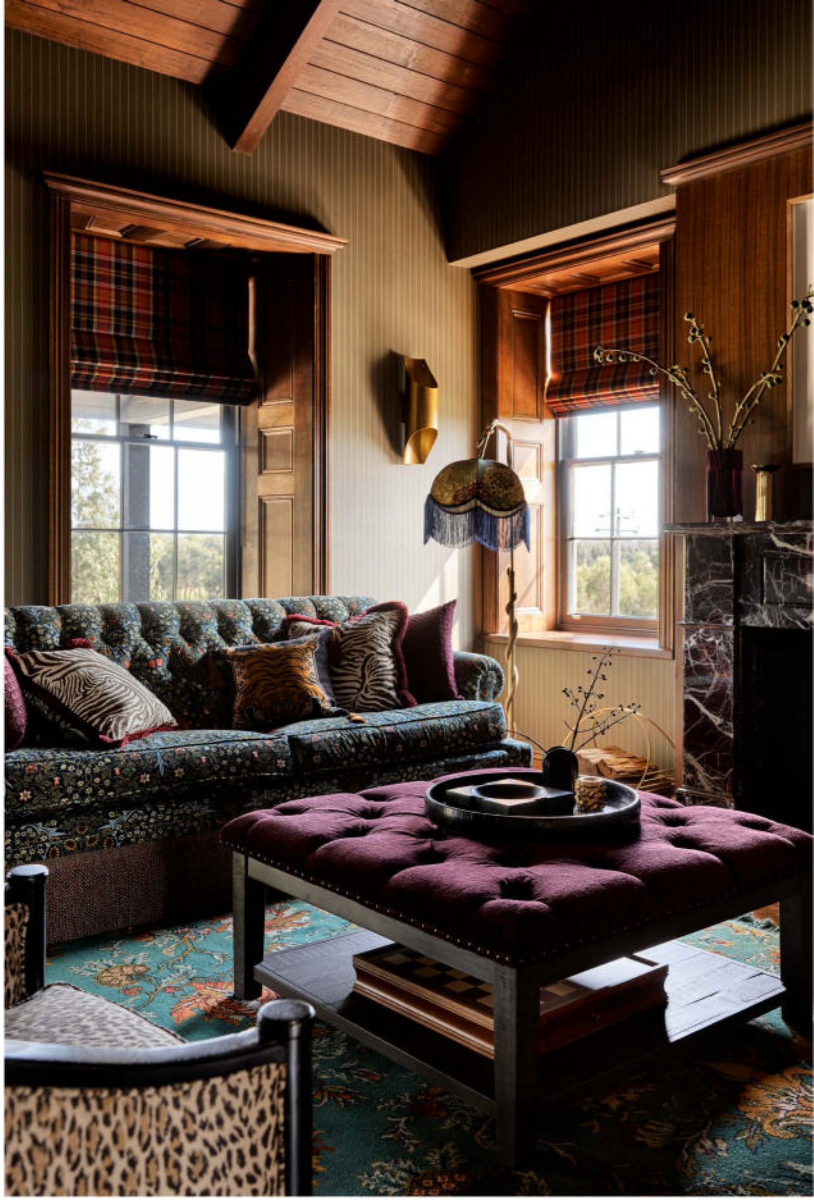
INTERIOR DESIGNER
Greg Natale

REIMAGINED RELIC

[Barwon, Victoria]

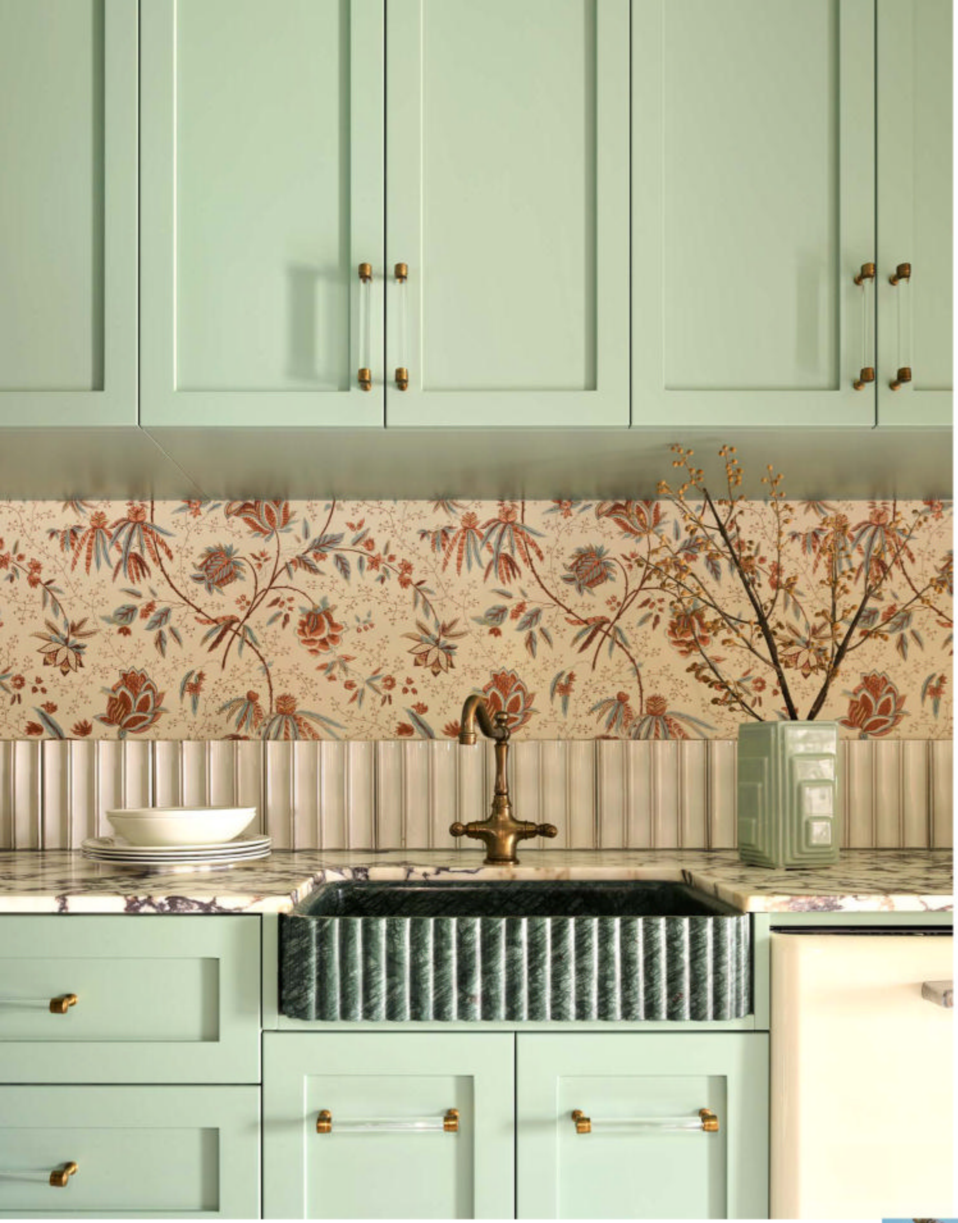
Photography ANSON SMART
Styling GREG NATALE





THE OWNERS OF A PROPERTY in regional Victoria approached Greg Natale to transform a 19th-century relic into a cosy guest cottage for their friends and family. *What made the project attractive to you?* The cottage hadn't been touched since it was built and was completely uninhabitable. When I say 'relic', I mean it. We were tasked with a full restoration, which included rebuilding the facade and adding charming features like a tiled porch and welcoming front garden. It's not every day you get to renovate a structure over a century old. To give it new life while creating an immersive experience for the owners' guests to enjoy was definitely special. *How did you become involved with the project?* I've had the pleasure of completing several projects for these clients and our collaboration has taken me across continents. Most recently, I returned to Sydney after redesigning their home overseas. They're fantastic clients and I love working with them. Over time, I've developed a deep understanding of their tastes and design preferences, and I enjoy the challenge of adapting their personal style to suit projects of varying scales. *What was the starting point for the interiors?* The history of the structure was our starting point for the interiors of Barwon Cottage. We aimed to restore elements that would have been present originally, such as the deep architrave windows. The fireplace is a nod to the past, a replica of the original design but reimagined in Rosso Levanto marble instead of timber. The clients' love of timber is reflected throughout the space, from the floors to the ceilings and joinery, creating a warm foundation that connects the space with its rural setting.

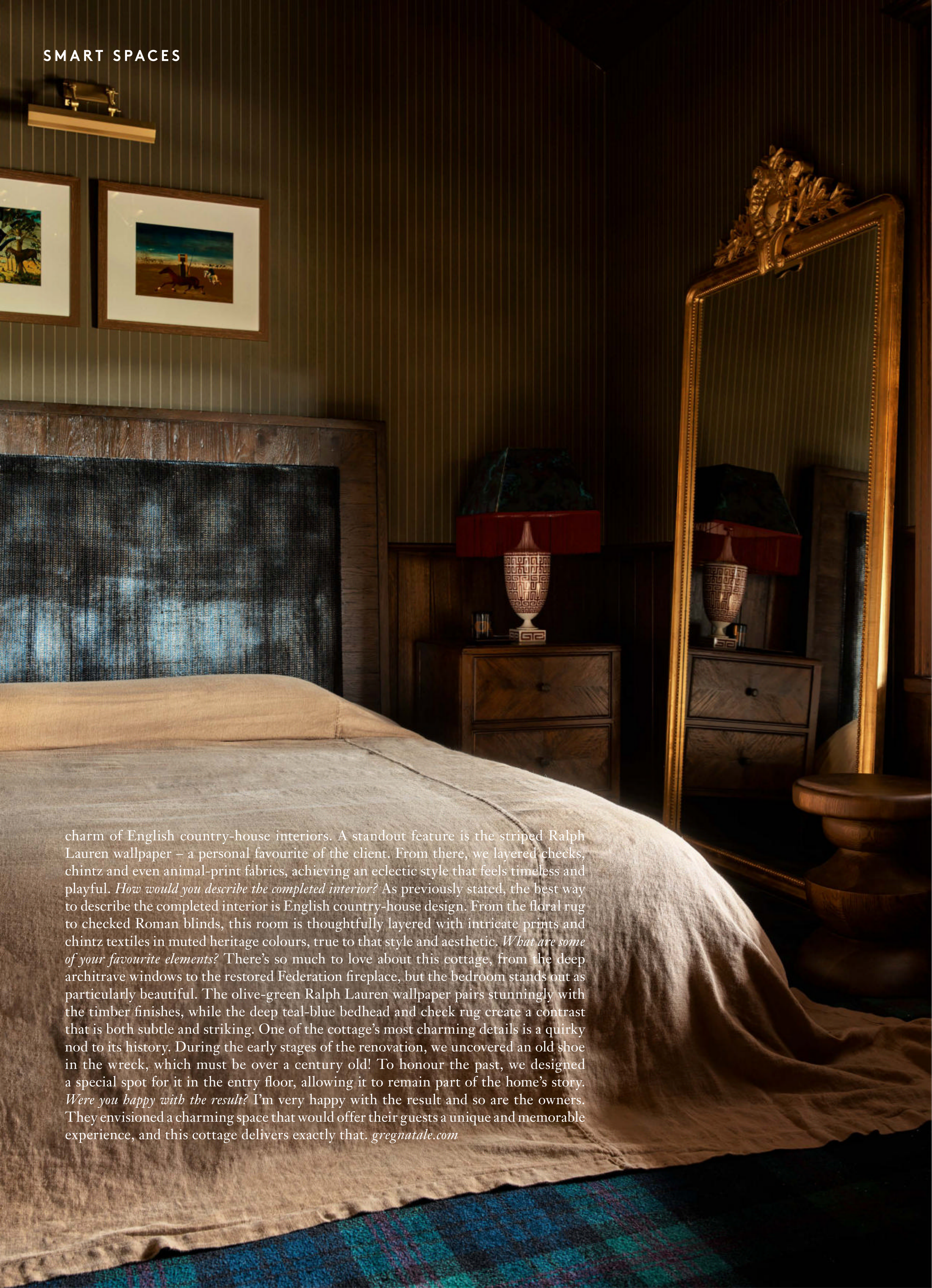
These pages (top left and right, and opposite) Rosso Levanto marble on the fireplace and American oak on the ceilings and floors were supplied by the builder. Ralph Lauren 'Langford Chalk Stripe' wallpaper in Chocolate from IconRadford. William Morris & Co blinds in 'Woodford Plaid' Brick/Wine from Domestic Textile Corporation. Ralph Lauren 'Riley' chandelier from Visual Comfort. 'Cathedral' sconces from Restoration Hardware. Clients' armchairs in House of Hackney 'Wild Card' fabric, and 'Wilton' button-back sofa in 'Blackthorn Velvet' from IconRadford. 'Tenelle' ottoman from Bay Gallery. House of Hackney 'Serpentis' lampstand with 'Tilia' lampshade in 'Caspar' velvet from IconRadford. 'Chord' log holder from CB2. 'Kelsie' marble side table from Boyd Blue. Remaining lamp, shade and rug by House of Hackney from IconRadford. Cushions from Alexander J Cook and Greg Natale. Accessories from Greg Natale. Left See previous pages.



These pages (left and opposite) The kitchen's cabinets are crown-cut American oak veneer, finished in Dulux Olivine. 'Grafton' glass pulls from Restoration Hardware. Ralph Lauren 'Pillar Point Floral' wallpaper in Bittersweet from IconRadford. Calacatta Viola marble on benches and splashback supplied by builder. 'Gracia' wall tiles from Academy Tiles. 'Fleur' pressed-metal on ceiling from Australian Pressed Metal, painted Dulux Olivine. Hamilton-pattern floor tiles with Grand Norwood border from Renditions Tiles. Fluted butler's sink in Verde Guatemala marble by Greg Natale x Teranova. Olde English sink mixer with metal lever handles from Astra Walker. Smeg 'Thermoseal' cooker from Bing Lee. 'Merchant' pendant light by Thomas O'Brien from Visual Comfort. Accessories from Greg Natale. **Above and below** Vistas of the garden.

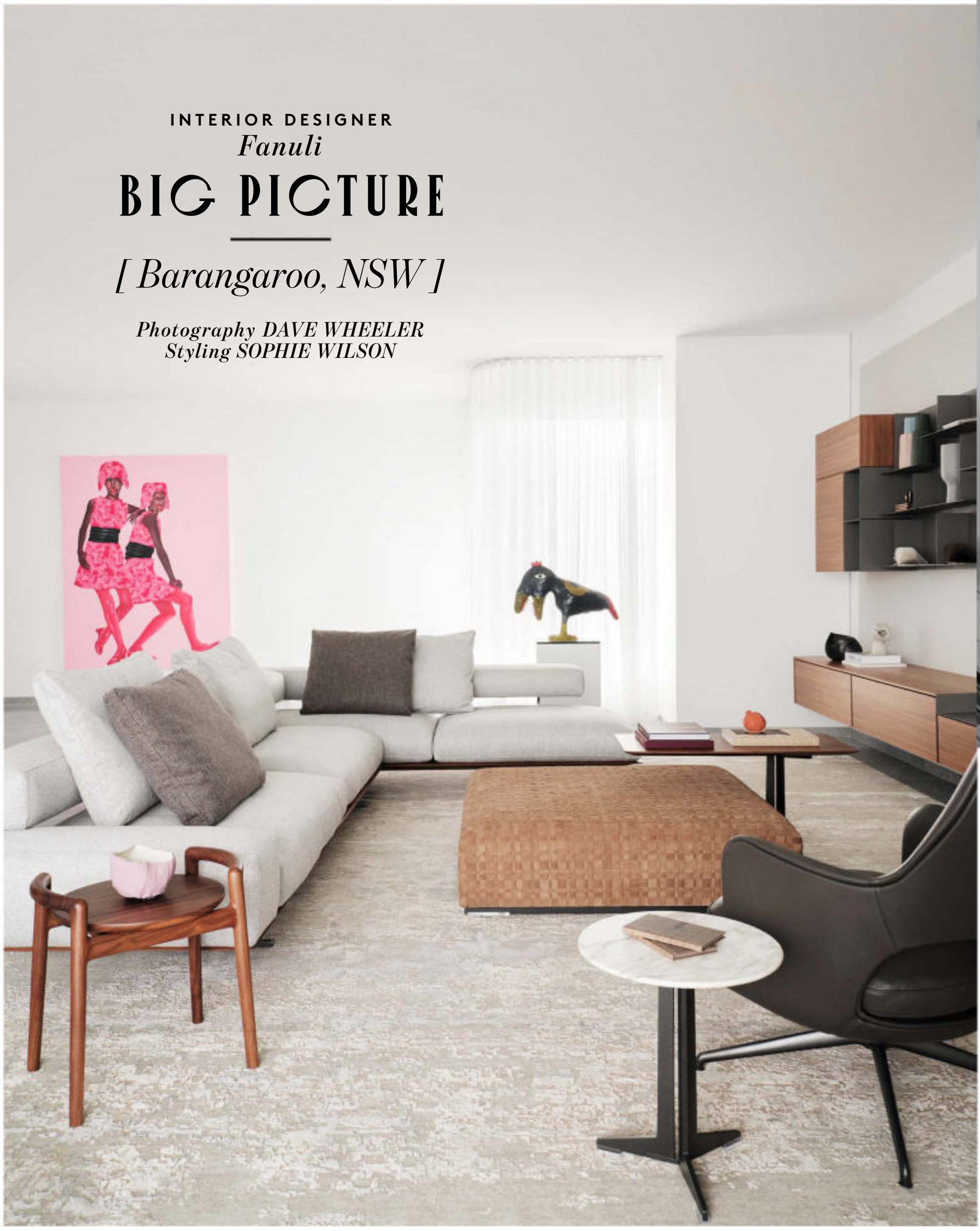
Were there any challenges with the space? The clients appreciate highly layered interiors, so our biggest challenge was to achieve this look in a smaller space without it feeling overly cluttered. The solution lay in careful scaling. Small spaces don't necessarily require you to have less furniture, but they do mean that every piece should be thoughtfully proportioned. For instance, we incorporated a sofa and statement chairs to maintain a sense of luxury and comfort. However, these pieces were selected in more compact sizes to suit the space, ensuring the room feels both functional and inviting without sacrificing the layered, curated aesthetic the client loves. *How did you maximise the sense of space?* The built-in joinery allowed for integrated storage, eliminating the need for additional furniture. This ensures that, despite the layered, maximalist aesthetic, the space remains tidy and avoids feeling overly cluttered. The striped wallpaper and natural grain of the timber further enhance the design by emphasising the verticality of the space, subtly drawing the eye upwards and creating a sense of height and openness. These elements work together to maintain a balance between richness and refinement. *What informed the selection of fittings, finishes, furniture and art?* The clients have a distinctive style: a love for dark, moody colour palettes, rich textures and strong, rustic furniture. Their taste in art, however, leans towards contemporary expressionist works, like that of Sidney Nolan, with more free-flowing lines and a lighter colour palette. For the guest cottage, they encouraged us to put a playful spin on the signature style we've cultivated together over several projects. Embracing a pattern-on-pattern approach, we aimed to capture the cosy, layered

SMEG



charm of English country-house interiors. A standout feature is the striped Ralph Lauren wallpaper – a personal favourite of the client. From there, we layered checks, chintz and even animal-print fabrics, achieving an eclectic style that feels timeless and playful. *How would you describe the completed interior?* As previously stated, the best way to describe the completed interior is English country-house design. From the floral rug to checked Roman blinds, this room is thoughtfully layered with intricate prints and chintz textiles in muted heritage colours, true to that style and aesthetic. *What are some of your favourite elements?* There's so much to love about this cottage, from the deep architrave windows to the restored Federation fireplace, but the bedroom stands out as particularly beautiful. The olive-green Ralph Lauren wallpaper pairs stunningly with the timber finishes, while the deep teal-blue bedhead and check rug create a contrast that is both subtle and striking. One of the cottage's most charming details is a quirky nod to its history. During the early stages of the renovation, we uncovered an old shoe in the wreck, which must be over a century old! To honour the past, we designed a special spot for it in the entry floor, allowing it to remain part of the home's story. *Were you happy with the result?* I'm very happy with the result and so are the owners. They envisioned a charming space that would offer their guests a unique and memorable experience, and this cottage delivers exactly that. *gregnatale.com*

These pages (above left and opposite) Lining the bedroom walls is Ralph Lauren 'Langford Chalk Stripe' wallpaper in Chocolate from IconRadford. American oak panelling by builder. Custom carpet from Tartan Carpets. Ralph Lauren 'Anette 9' picture lights from Visual Comfort. 'Tucker US' king bed with Misia 'Anaconda' fabric from Theodore Alexander. 'Dark Santos' wing-back chair and 'Nova Dusk' nightstand from Cromwell Australia. House of Hackney 'Serpentis' lampstand and custom shade from IconRadford. 'Labirinto' table lamp by Richard Ginori. 'Sabrina' turned-wood stool from Zuster. Sidney Nolan posters from PictureStore. **Above right and below** Adorning the bathroom ceiling is the 'Corinthian' pattern from Australian Pressed Metal. The flooring is Hamilton-pattern tiles with a Grand Norwood border from Renditions Tiles. 'Gracia' wall tiles in Marrón from Academy Tiles. Fluted butler's sink and skirting in Verde Guatemala marble by Greg Natale x Teranova. Olde English tapware in Aged Brass from Astra Walker. 'Grafton' pulls from Restoration Hardware. Wall lights from Lighting Collective.



INTERIOR DESIGNER
Fanuli

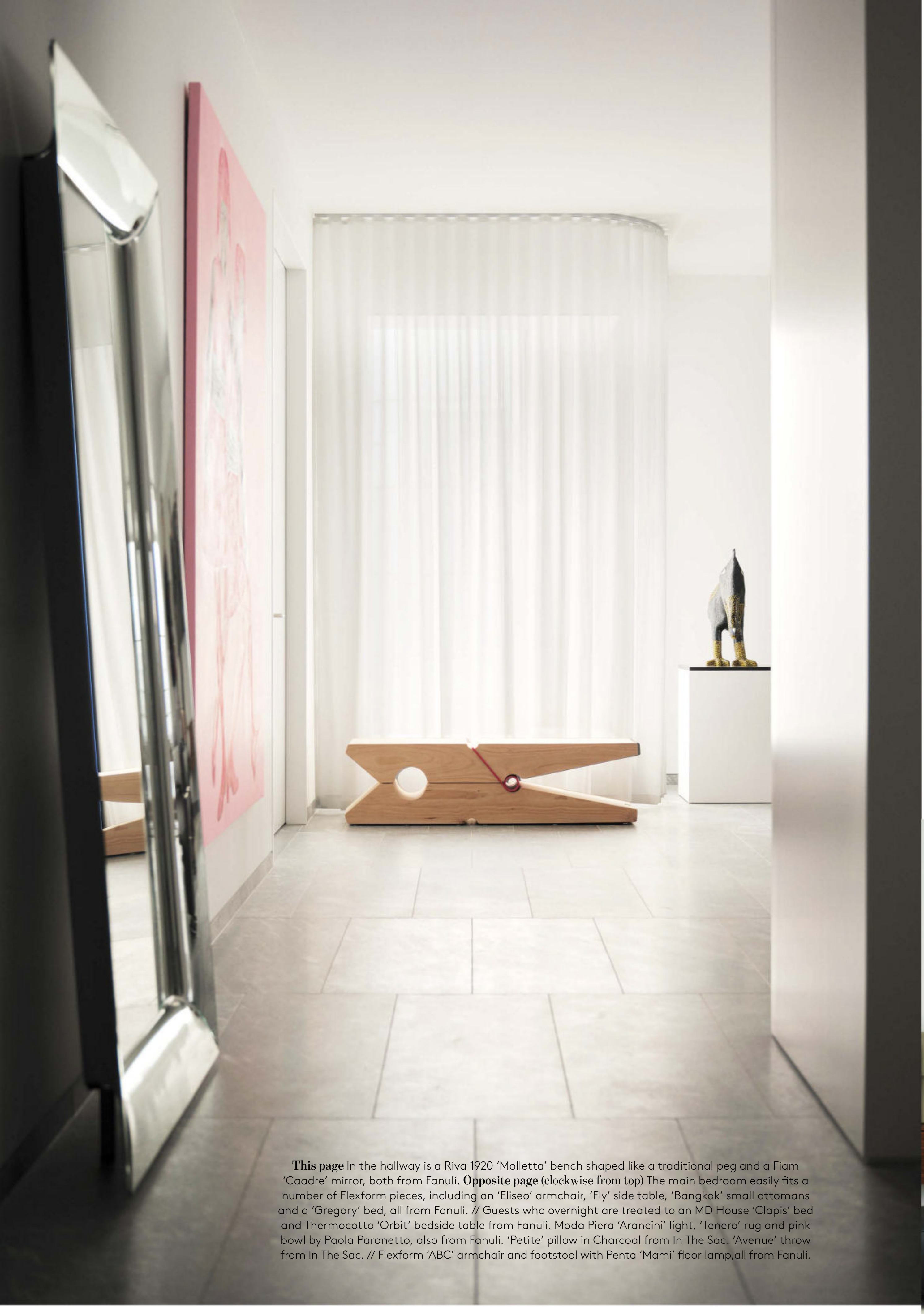
BIG PICTURE

[Barangaroo, NSW]

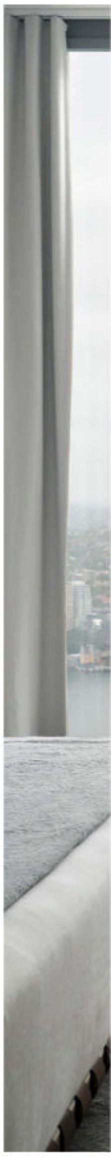
Photography DAVE WHEELER
Styling SOPHIE WILSON

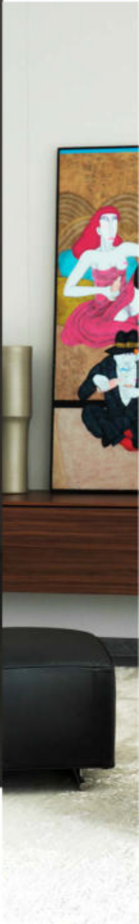
These pages (clockwise from top left) An MD House 'Avenue' wall system from Fanuli runs the length of the living space. Flexform 'Wing' modular sofa, 'Fly' side table, 'Bangkok' large ottoman, 'Eliseo' armchair and 'Ascanio' side table, all from Fanuli. 'Cumulus' rug, also from Fanuli. // In the winter garden are Flexform 'Ortigia' outdoor sofas and a 'Kobo' coffee table from Fanuli. *Sea Spray* raku vessel by Katarina Wells from Curatorial+Co. // A 'Coral Linear' pendant light from Soktas forms a backdrop for the dining space. Flexform 'Boma' table and 'Joyce' chairs with Kristalia 'BCN' stools, all from Fanuli. *Tidal Pool* vessel on kitchen shelf (at right) by Katarina Wells from Curatorial+Co // The breakfast nook with a view has a Bonaldo 'Greeny' dining table, Flexform 'Echoes' dining chairs and a Riva 1920 'Rialto Fly' sideboard, all from Fanuli. Blue bowl by Paola Paronetto, also from Fanuli.

IN THE BARANGAROO PRECINCT on the edge of Sydney's CBD is a building raised more than 80 storeys high to take in the surrounding harbour and city views. It's also close to some of the world's best hotels, restaurants, stores and venues, which is another reason the new owners decided to set up home there. Shortly after they took possession of their three-bedroom apartment, they approached Fanuli for professional advice on how to furnish it. Inhouse designer Val Hebblewhite was tasked with the job. *What is the project and what made it attractive to you?* The project was for a complete interior design package from Fanuli. The location of the project and the enthusiasm of the clients were two of the most attractive parts of this job. *How did you become involved with the project?* The clients came into our extensive showroom in Cremorne and fell in love with our furniture. They were interested in the Fanuli Interior Design Service and I became involved at that time. *What was the starting point for the interiors?* The clients had some exceptional art pieces that inspired the process, so they served as a guiding point throughout. Each space in the apartment had a very specific feel we wanted to achieve, so inspiration for ideas on how to furnish the home, what colours and textures to bring to the space and how to position the furniture had its beginnings from there. The apartment had fantastic features, such as high ceilings, beautiful marbles and the most incredible views of the city and harbour. *What were the challenges of the space and how did you resolve them?* The biggest challenge we had was to make sure that the furniture complemented the views from the apartment. The clients were really keen to make sure it all flowed nicely together.



This page In the hallway is a Riva 1920 'Molletta' bench shaped like a traditional peg and a Fiam 'Caadre' mirror, both from Fanuli. **Opposite page (clockwise from top)** The main bedroom easily fits a number of Flexform pieces, including an 'Eliseo' armchair, 'Fly' side table, 'Bangkok' small ottomans and a 'Gregory' bed, all from Fanuli. // Guests who overnight are treated to an MD House 'Clapis' bed and Thermocotto 'Orbit' bedside table from Fanuli. Moda Piera 'Arancini' light, 'Tenero' rug and pink bowl by Paola Paronetto, also from Fanuli. 'Petite' pillow in Charcoal from In The Sac. 'Avenue' throw from In The Sac. // Flexform 'ABC' armchair and footstool with Penta 'Mami' floor lamp,all from Fanuli.





We were very lucky to be able to work on this project. The vast layout of the apartment gave us lots of flexibility in how to choose and position the pieces in each room. *Were there any devices employed to maximise the sense of space?* The space is very large, so the challenge was to make the space feel more intimate. *What informed the selection of furniture?* The clients' art collection, the views from the apartment, and the internal fit-out and finishes dictated the colour palette and choice of furniture. *How would you describe the completed interior?* Contemporary, clean and minimal. It's colourful and vibrant without being too overwhelming. *What are some of your favourite elements?* I absolutely love the artwork! My favourite furniture pieces are some of the Flexform sofas: the 'Wing' sofa in the living room and the 'Ortigia' outdoor sofa. The iconic 'ABC' lounge chair was one of the clients' must-haves. And, in my opinion, the breakfast nook overlooking the harbour is the most special place. I love how we captured the intimate feeling in that space. It's the best spot to have your morning coffee. *Were you happy with the execution? What do you, or the owners, enjoy about being in the space?* The clients love the space and are extremely happy with the results. I think we achieved the main objective of this project, which was to have the furniture complement the artwork and the views. *fanuli.com.au; @fanulifurniture*

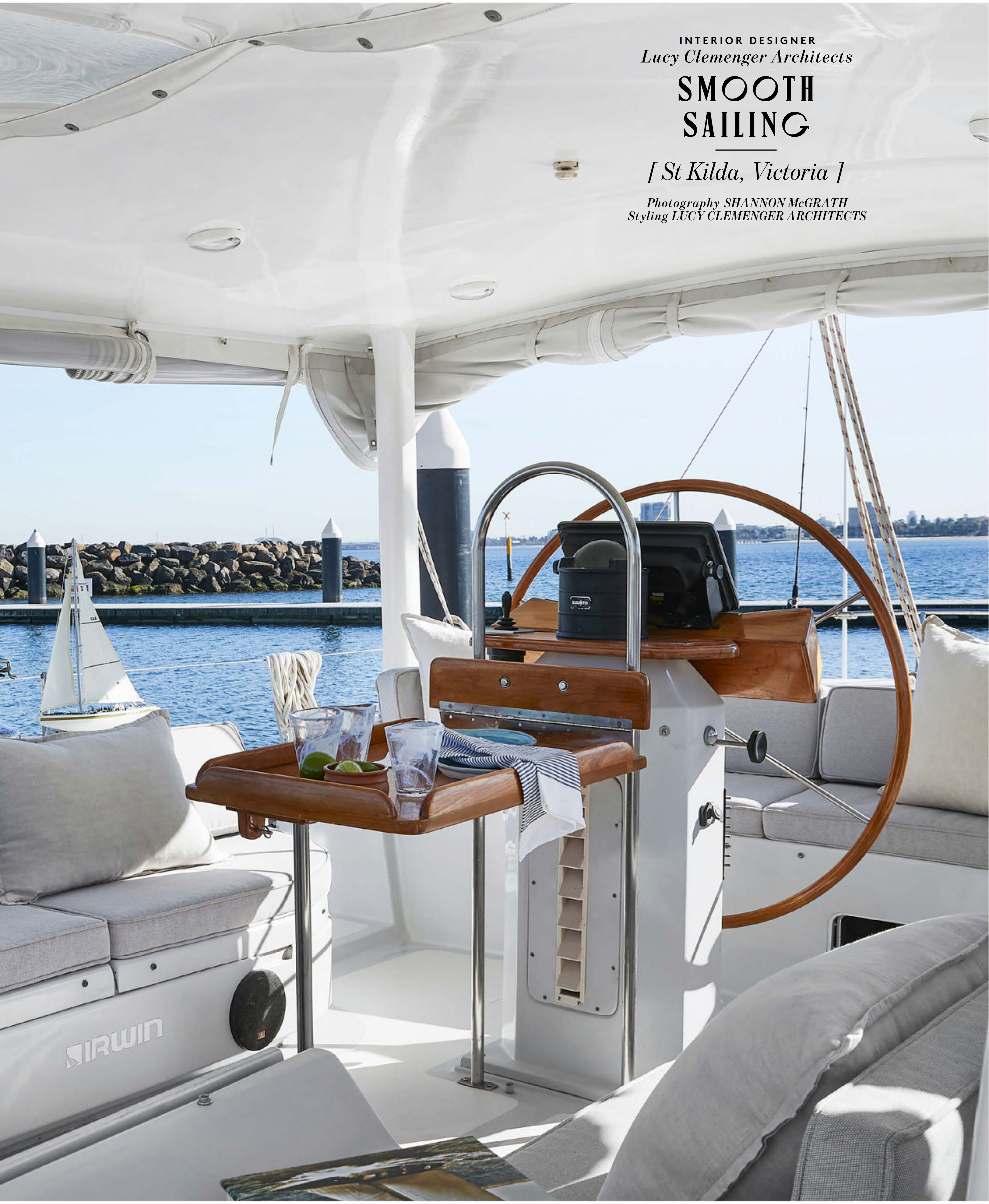
These pages "The idiom 'to sail the sea' promised a lifetime of adventure, and a moment of madness led to the purchase of the vessel that is now our floating holiday home," says architect Lucy Clemenger of her family's boat. "During Covid, our children started sailing lessons and had such an affinity with the sport, we decided to embark on our own sailing journey. *Parlay* required work. It was much loved, but needed an overhaul. The electrics were cooked, the joinery was outdated and the upholstery was tired." New elements include seating and upholstery throughout plus timber-veneer lining.

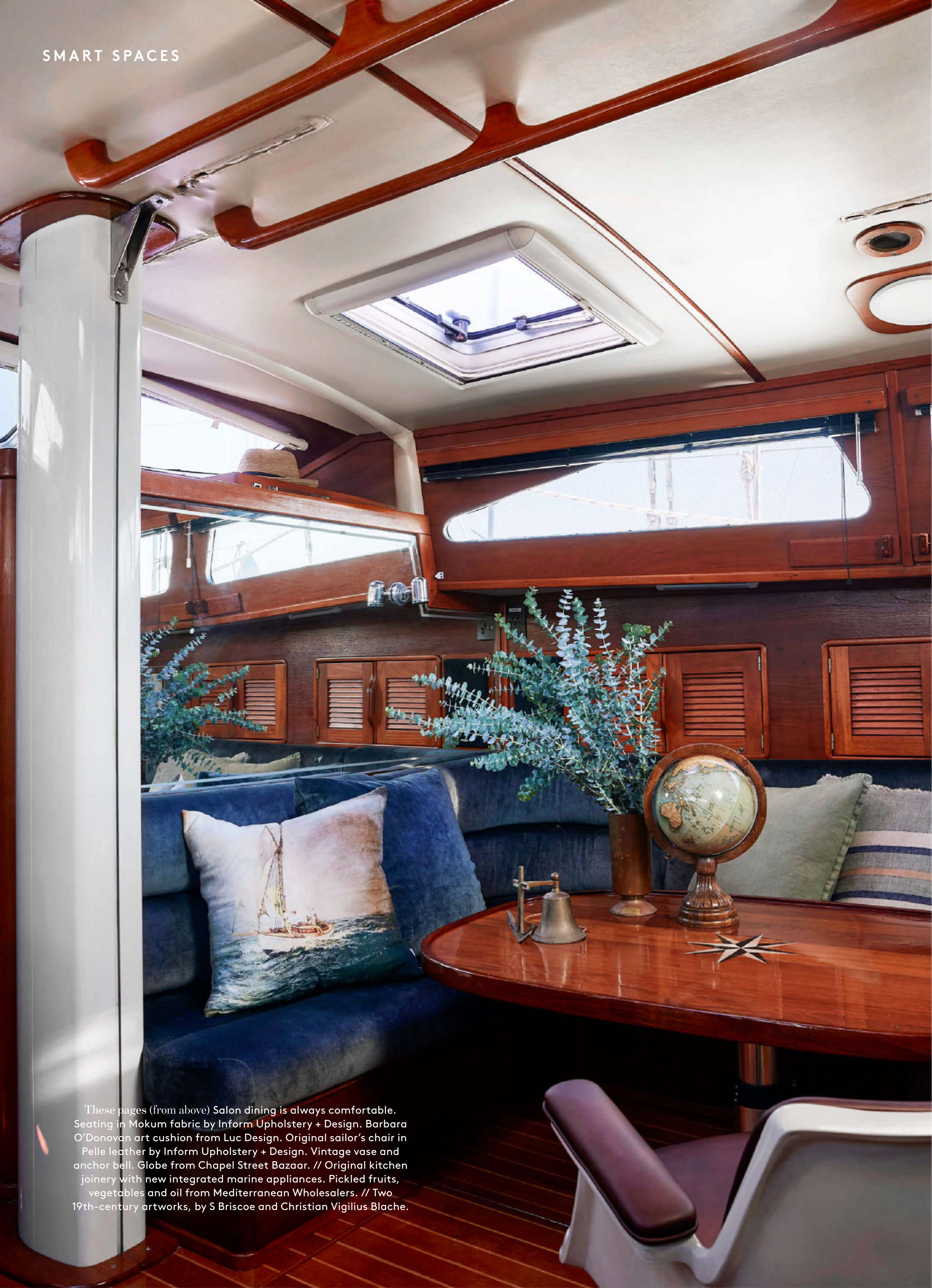
INTERIOR DESIGNER
Lucy Clemenger Architects

SMOOTH SAILING

[St Kilda, Victoria]

Photography SHANNON McGRATH
Styling LUCY CLEMENGER ARCHITECTS





These pages (from above) Salon dining is always comfortable. Seating in Mokum fabric by Inform Upholstery + Design. Barbara O'Donovan art cushion from Luc Design. Original sailor's chair in Pelle leather by Inform Upholstery + Design. Vintage vase and anchor bell. Globe from Chapel Street Bazaar. // Original kitchen joinery with new integrated marine appliances. Pickled fruits, vegetables and oil from Mediterranean Wholesalers. // Two 19th-century artworks, by S Briscoe and Christian Vigilius Blache.

***PARLAY* IS A 30-YEAR-OLD IRWIN YACHT** that spent several years in the US, Asia and Queensland, sailing and cruising. The previous owners had lived aboard, and the vessel was ready for a makeover when Melbourne architect Lucy Clemenger and her family first saw it. *Were there any challenges in this space?* The yacht had been altered a couple of times, largely for cruising, so the challenge was to turn it back into a yacht that could sail passages but also be comfortable for weekends away. One of the berths in the small cabin had been removed and that needed to be rebuilt to allow room for another bunk bed. Lee cloths needed to be reinstated for sleeping sailors. Everything needed to be fixed down and made secure. *What was the starting point for the interiors?* To create a sense of space, the finishes and fittings that were not original were stripped out. Cream vinyl that hugged the base of the salon's seating was removed, revealing a thin layer of timber veneer. The timber lining throughout was repaired and re-oiled, providing the base for a dark and moody palette. A trip to Tasmania and the deep green of Bass Strait inspired the finishes. The cabins – aptly called Midnight and Ocean – are layered with dark green and inky blue linens and fabrics that recede into the spaces, creating depth and cool-yet-calm interiors. *How would you describe the completed interior?* It's a balance between a 1990s American cruiser and a contemporary European superyacht. Essentially a floating house, the spaces are generous and can easily accommodate a family plus friends for lunches, dinners and kids' sleepovers. The interior is unfussy yet relaxed and has a sense of comfort. The deep green velvet exudes luxury yet the joinery and essential features are practical and robust. *What are some of your favourite elements?* Mine include the original salon mirrors and bar; the galley joinery framed in solid timber; the comfortable seating that doubles as extra beds; and the pilot house up top for drinks with friends and a covered place to sail or watch the penguins in St Kilda [where *Parlay* is usually moored]. Ceiling hatches also provide wonderful sky views from the cabins and draw the sea breeze into the spaces. There is no shortage of elbow room on board, and we can spend weeks on the yacht and forget all about our busy lives in the city. Our dog, Disco, also loves sailing with us. *Were there any devices employed to maximise the sense of space?* Mirrors are used throughout the yacht to reflect light and create a sense of space in the salon and behind the

beds in the cabins. Dark recessive materials and finishes create depth and a sense of scale. Pictures and artefacts and marine antiquity draw one's eye to corners of the room and hint at stories of the past, including 19th-century watercolours, drawings and oils. *What informed the selection of fittings, finishes, furniture and art?* Local carpenters and engineers helped us to ensure the renovation is robust and fit for purpose in an often-tough marine environment. We worked with local furniture upholsterers to design and make new upholstery throughout the yacht. Wherever possible, we have retained the original fabric and gently modernised the interior. The art has been collected from our trips in Tasmania and Victoria. *Were you happy with the execution? What do you enjoy about being in the space?* We are so thrilled with the outcome; however, one thing is clear – a boat renovation is never really over! Next, we have work to do to the original sound system and the air conditioning, plus add some more technical sailing apparatus to make mooring easier. When we spend time at sea on *Parlay*, the peace and tranquillity is second to none and the joy it has brought the family has been worth all the work. *lucyclemenger.com.au; lucy_clemenger_architects*

This page (clockwise from top left) A view of *Parlay* from the marina. The boat has a new bow thruster. // Custom seating in Kvadrat upholstery by Inform Upholstery + Design graces the Midnight Cabin. Linen from Sheet Society. Vintage oil painting by Joslin. // The bunk beds are new and also made with linen from Sheet Society.

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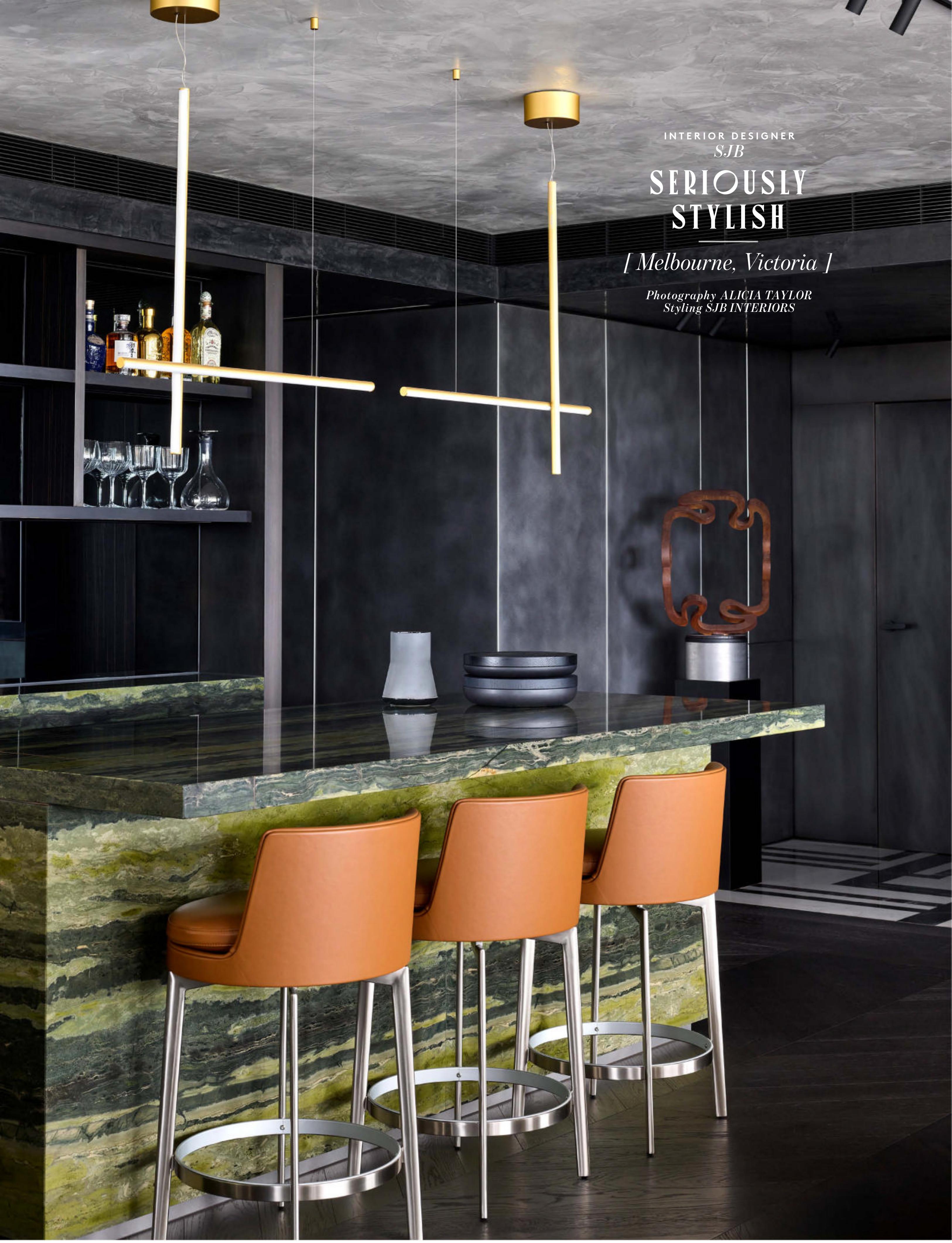
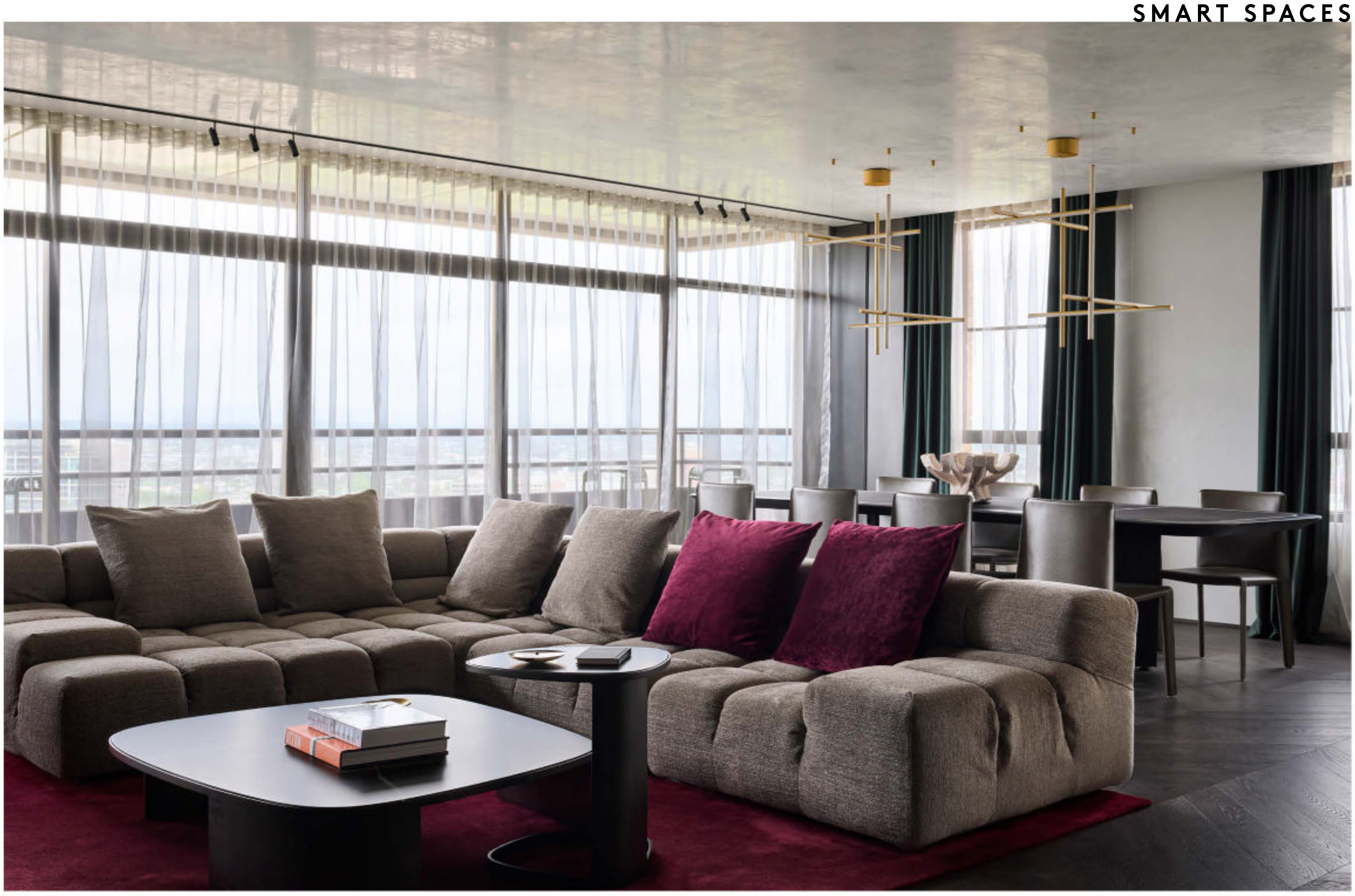


INTERIOR DESIGNER
SJB

SERIOUSLY STYLISH

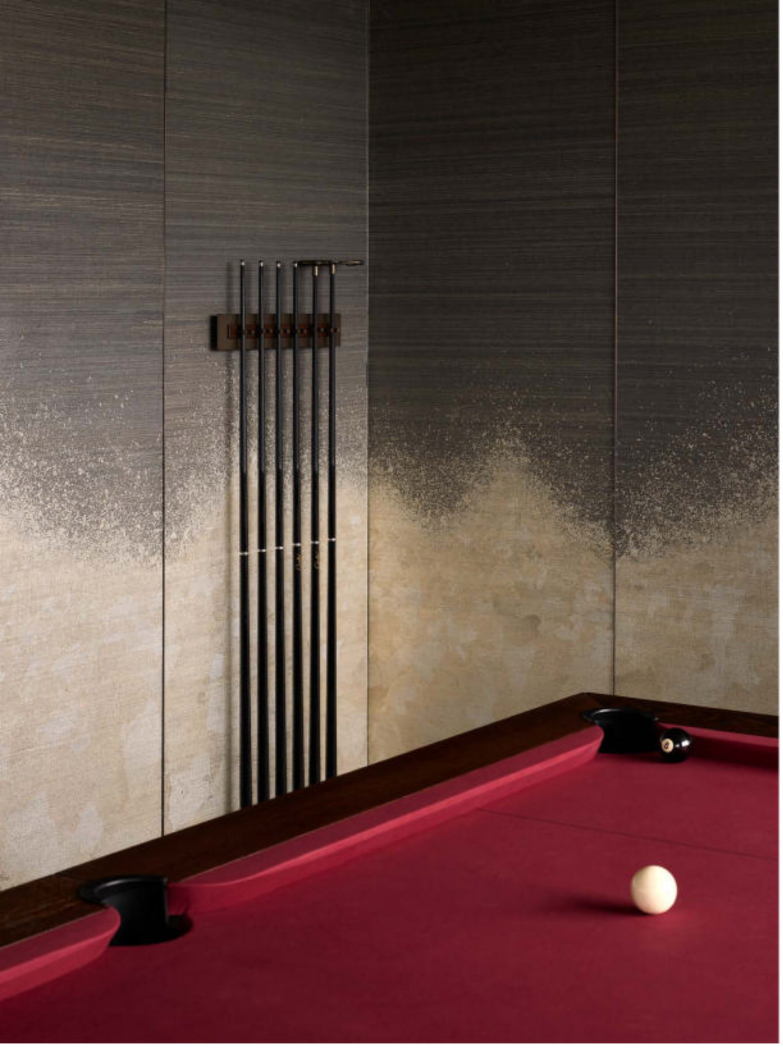
[Melbourne, Victoria]

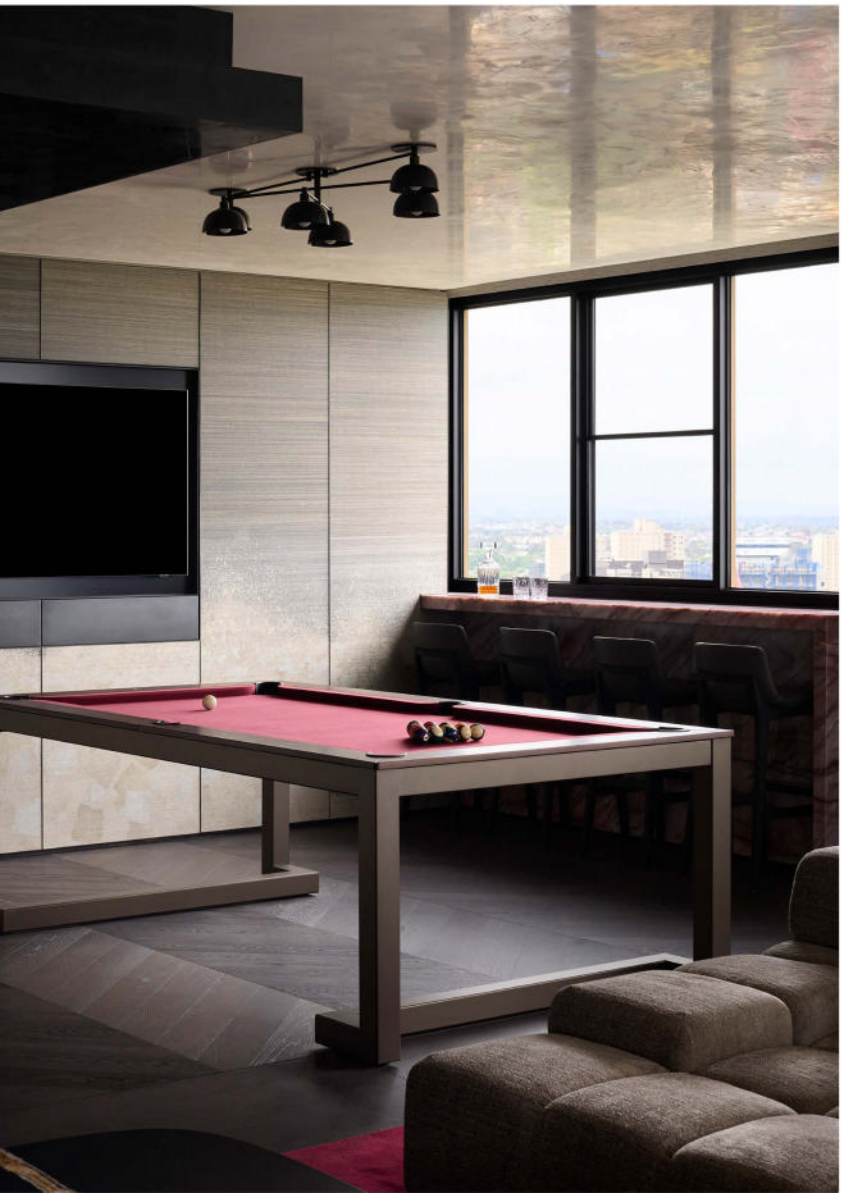
Photography ALICIA TAYLOR
Styling SJB INTERIORS



THE FULL REBUILD and renovation of a half-floor apartment within an iconic Spring Street location overlooking Melbourne's Fitzroy Gardens was an opportunity not to be missed for Ljiljana Gazevic of design practice SJB. She relished the chance to fully transform and reimagine the original 1980s-style apartment, taking advantage of the views and aspect. *How did you become involved with the project?* We had worked with the client before on many projects together (both private and commercial), so trust and confidence were strongly established. *What was the starting point for the interiors?* We began by analysing the existing conditions and providing new solutions to respond to the client's brief and aspirations for the project. The whole space was demolished to a bare structure and we completed a full redevelopment of the floor plan, including transforming smaller rooms into open-plan living and entertainment spaces, with separate sleeping quarters housing two bedrooms, both with ensuites. First was an upgrade of the glazed perimeter and balcony balustrades to harmonise with the building's heritage. The entry foyer was also upgraded as a prelude to the opulence within, boasting black and white marble in an Art Deco pattern – a Milanese touch that seamlessly extends into the apartment.

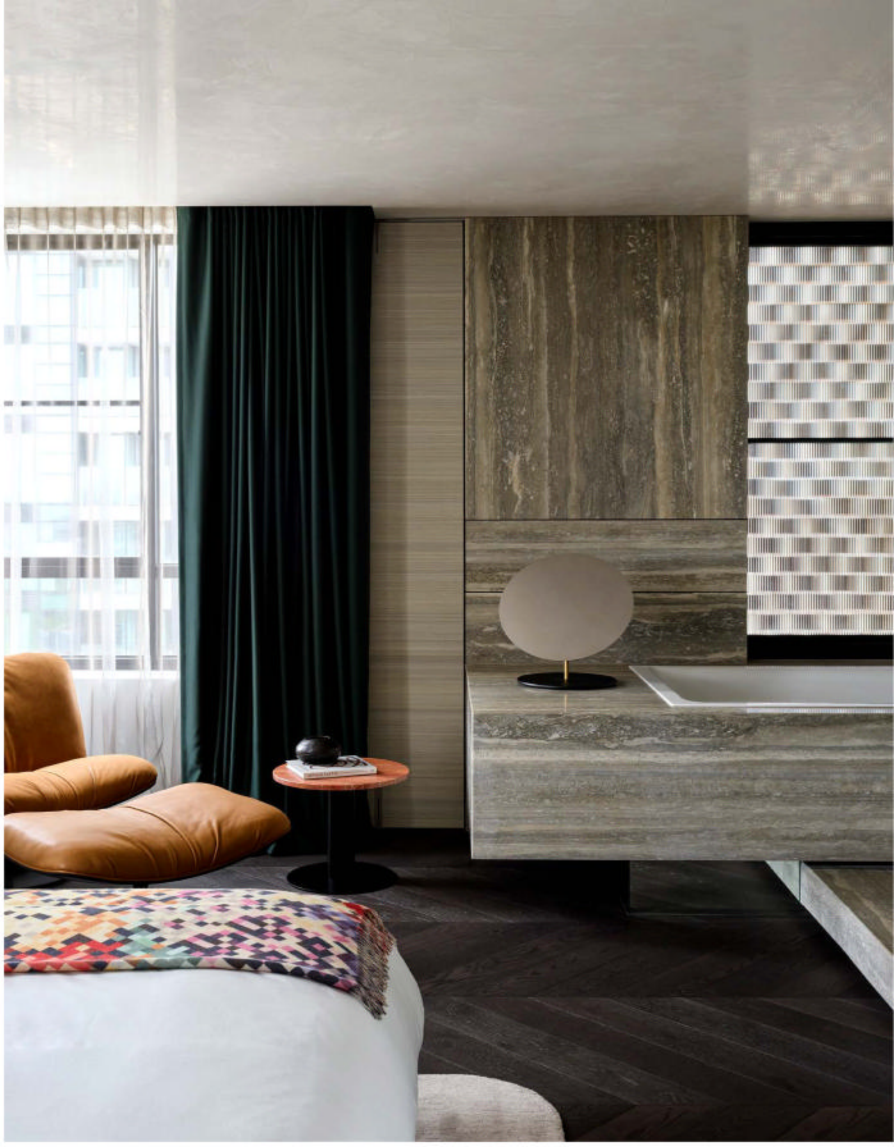
This page (from top) In the living room are a B&B Italia 'Tufty-Time' sofa by Patricia Urquiola from Space and 'Koishi' low coffee table by Jean-Marie Massaud from Poliform. Flos 'Zero Track' lighting and 'Coordinates Suspension' pendants over the dining table, which is a custom design by SJB. B&B Italia 'Doyl' chairs from Space. // Verde Fusion granite from CDK Stone features in the kitchen. **Opposite page** Flexform 'Feel Good' stools by Antonio Citterio from Fanuli. Chevron French Oak timber floors from Made by Storey.





Were there challenges and how did you resolve them? Lower ceiling heights informed the spatial planning, the aspect of the rooms and the lighting plan, with the introduction of feature lighting throughout to create ambience. The popcorn ceilings were raised by reorientating the services and then finished with polished plaster; the reflective surface amplifies the sense of scale while bathing the space in a warm and inviting glow. We also maximised the use of natural light in the living and entertainment areas, and installed sheer and blockout curtains. The stepped elevation in the main suite resolved existing service-related challenges. *Were there any devices employed to maximise the sense of space?* Venetian stucco in a satin finish on the ceiling reflects the light and enhances the spatial volumes. Rich metal finishes and textured stone materials soften the light reflections and draw attention to the details. *What informed the selection of the fittings and finishes, furniture and art?* The design was inspired by the elegance of Milanese apartments. We used materials such as Phillip Jeffries horsehair wallpaper, satin-finish metal cladding and bold natural stones throughout. The curation of furniture draws heavily on Italian designers, with highlights including the

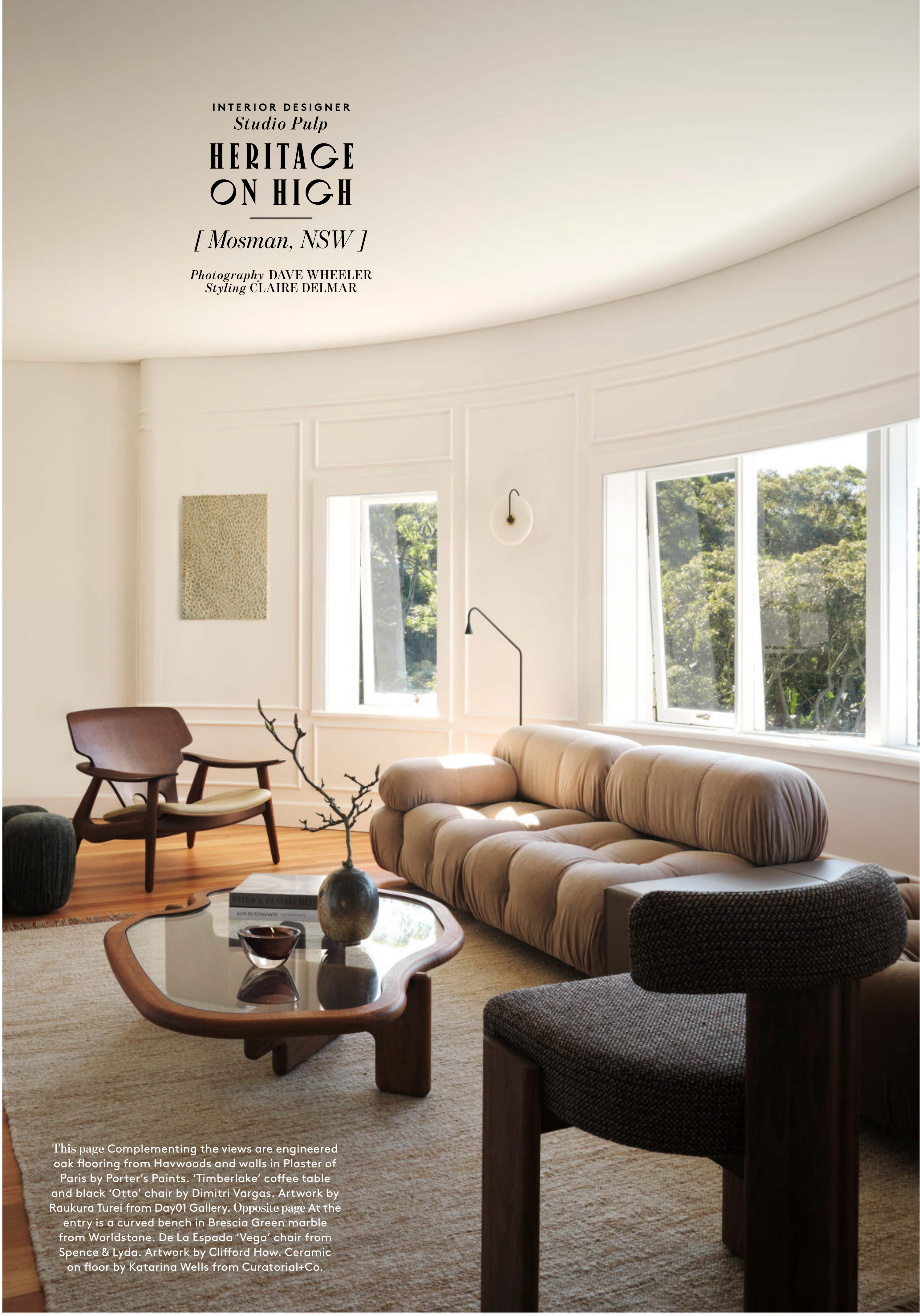
This page (clockwise from top) 'Metallic Ombre' wallpaper by Phillip Jeffries in the games area, which has a bar table with a view. Custom pool table by SJB. 'Ventura' leather stools from Poliform. **Opposite page** The custom metal wall cladding has a satin finish. B&B Italia 'Tufty-Time' sofa by Patricia Urquiola from Space. 'Koishi' low coffee table by Jean-Marie Massaud from Poliform. Flexform 'Feel Good' bar stools by Antonio Citterio from Fanuli.



B&B Italia 'Tufty-Time' sofa, Michael Anastassiades ceiling lights over the dining table and the Draga & Aurel 'Marilyn' revolving armchair. *How would you describe the completed interior?* The apartment was originally a time capsule of 1980s design, but now aspires to sophisticated, functional living. The project oscillates between dark and light, opaque and glossy, hard and soft – a balance between form and content with beautiful views. *Which are your favourite elements?* We're very happy with how the multi-functional kitchen/bar/entertaining space provides flexibility for single-person living or bigger-group entertainment. We also love how the main bedroom has a unique cantilevered, floating bathtub with feature lighting. *What do the owners particularly enjoy about the spaces?* The apartment has such a different feel now, with natural light during the day and a soft atmosphere at night because of the LED lighting, which is perfect for entertaining. They also really enjoy the high level of craftsmanship and attention to detail. *sjb.com.au*

These pages (clockwise from top) In the main bedroom, a custom leather bedhead by SJB creates a walkway alongside the built-in wardrobe. Draga & Aurel 'Marilyn' armchair and ottoman from Baxter. Arflex 'Goya' small table from Space. // Cantilevered custom bath in travertine from Signorino. // Poseidon granite was also incorporated into the wet areas. **Opposite page** 'Jacqueline' bed by Jean-Marie Massaud from Poliform. Custom leather bedhead by SJB. B&B Italia 'Frank' side table by Antonio Citterio from Space.

AUSTRALIAN PRINTS



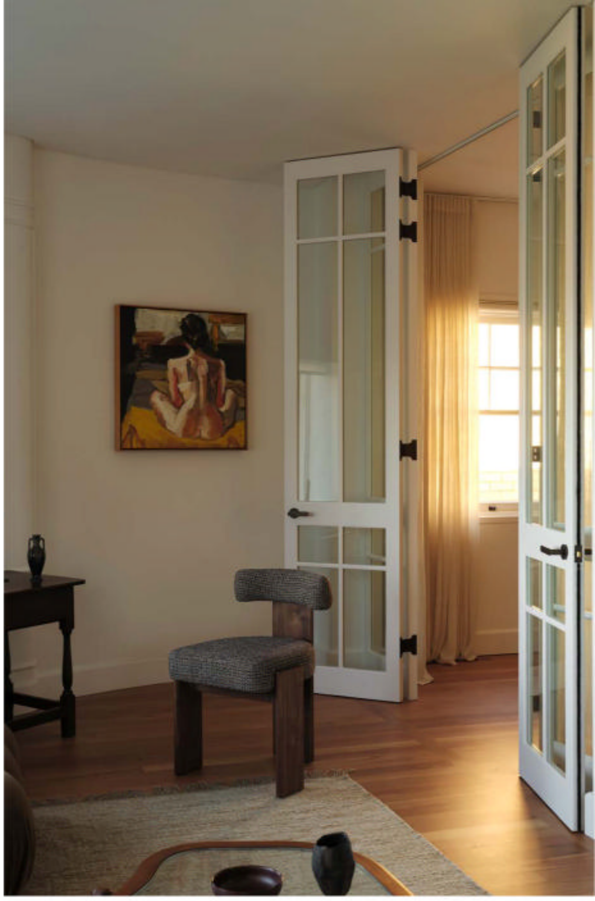
INTERIOR DESIGNER
Studio Pulp

HERITAGE ON HIGH

[Mosman, NSW]

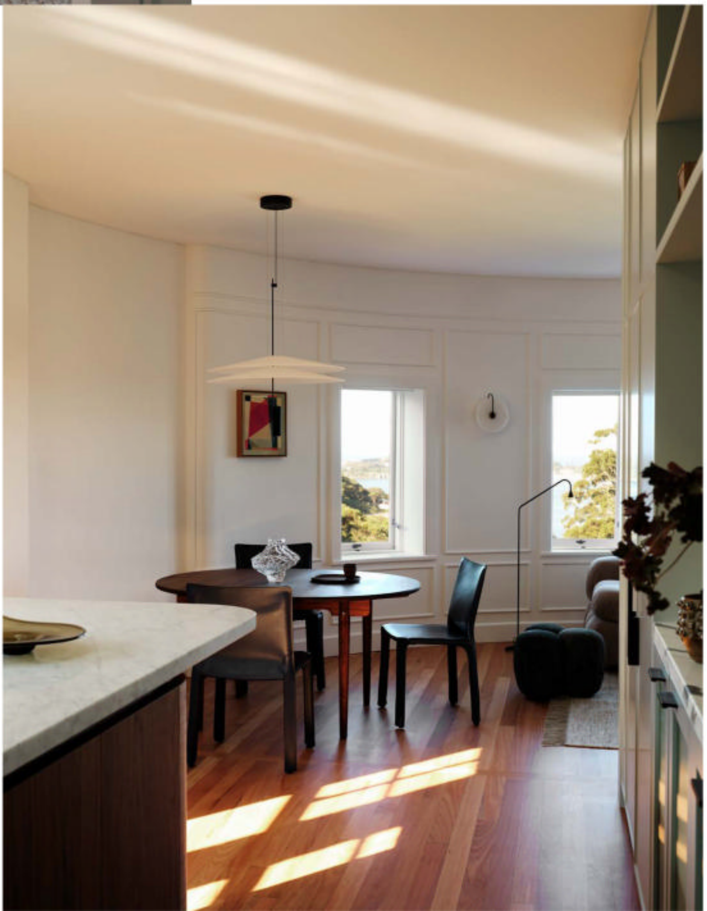
Photography DAVE WHEELER
Styling CLAIRE DELMAR

This page Complementing the views are engineered oak flooring from Havwoods and walls in Plaster of Paris by Porter's Paints. 'Timberlake' coffee table and black 'Otto' chair by Dimitri Vargas. Artwork by Raukura Turei from Day01 Gallery. Opposite page At the entry is a curved bench in Brescia Green marble from Worldstone. De La Espada 'Vega' chair from Spence & Lyda. Artwork by Clifford How. Ceramic on floor by Katarina Wells from Curatorial+Co.



This page (from left) B&B Italia 'Camaleonda' sofa from Space. Ottoman by Dimitri Vargas. 'Diz' armchair from Mama Casa. Austere lamp from Great Dane. Rug from Armadillo. // French doors to the lobby. Artwork by Robert Malherbe. // A Carl Hansen 'CH337' table from Cult and Cassina 'Cab' chairs from Mobilia in the dining space. 'Flamingo' pendant light from Vibia. **Opposite page** The skylight has made the kitchen much brighter. Carrara marble is showcased on the benches and the splashback is Brescia Green from Worldstone. The cabinets are Salt Wattle by Porter's Paints. 'Cinnamon Triba' veneer from Decospan. 'Fredericia' stools from Cult. Accessories from Connie and Vi, The DEA Store and Planet.

THE OWNER OF THIS SYDNEY APARTMENT had lived there for eight years prior to appointing Studio Pulp as her interior architect and designer. She'd seen a previous project of theirs in *Belle* and felt a connection to their aesthetic. *What was the starting point for the interiors?* Our design concept for the project was inspired by the building's rich heritage – its distinctive Art Deco, P&O-style curved architecture – and the ephemeral, cloud-like energy and softness of the apartment. We have introduced soft, curved elements that reference both. Our interventions of details such as joinery, lighting, finishes, fixtures, furniture, art and styling have given the apartment a new life with fresh interiors personalised to our client. Ornate brass accents and striking sculptural lighting fixtures are meticulously integrated, enhancing the overall aesthetic appeal. The colour palette is sophisticated and restrained, featuring warm tones of grey and walnut timber veneer that provide depth and contrast, ensuring a harmonious balance between heritage and modernity. *What were the challenges of the space and how did you resolve them?* The main challenges were the previous renovation and tight layout. Completed in the early 2000s, the renovation featured large sliding Perspex panels recessed into the ceilings and timber flooring, which necessitated a complete overhaul. We sought creative



solutions for patching, repairing and filling junctions while navigating the tight spaces to enhance functionality. *Were there any devices employed to maximise the sense of space?* Several strategies were employed. We rounded off all the existing square corners, creating a softer, more fluid transition between rooms. Curved joinery elements were added to further soften the spaces and enhance the feeling of openness. Feature glass doors were installed between the main bedroom and the living area to expand both, and allow that bedroom to enjoy the view. Previous renovations had blocked some bathroom windows, so we reopened them. Additionally, a skylight was detailed above the kitchen island, making the room appear larger. *What informed the selection of furniture and art?* Embracing the cherished objects and furniture the owner wished to retain, we curated a captivating blend of antique, mid-century and contemporary elements throughout the apartment. The art contributes to its ethereal, feminine, cloud-like atmosphere. *How would you describe the completed interior?* The design evokes a sense of tranquillity amid the dynamic backdrop of Sydney's bustling harbour. From the softened plasterboard junctions and the airy, lightweight furnishings to the subtle yet impactful accents, every aspect of the space is designed to invite serenity. *What are some of your favourite elements?* The Art Deco features we incorporated continue to stand out as moments of timeless beauty. The decorative wainscoting panels in the formal living room provide proportion to the curved walls and imbue a sense of depth. The simplicity of the ensuite invites moments of relaxation and enjoyment without unnecessary complexity.

studiopulp.com.au; @studiopulp__

This page The main bedroom's occasional chair is the 'Arkade' design from Fred International. 'Puglia' linen quilt cover in Olive from In The Sac. Opposite page (from top) Beside the main bed is a DCW Editions 'Mantis' table lamp from Spence & Lyda and vase by Terunobu Hirata from The DEA Store. Artworks by Robert Malherbe. // The Art Deco exterior of the building. // In the ensuite are a mixture of tiles from Surface Gallery, CDK Stone and Fibonacci. The cabinetry colour is Dulux Tea Set. Urn vase by Tetsuya Ozawa from The DEA Store.

These pages The block housing this apartment was designed by French architect Philippe Starck and its new owner wanted to incorporate the off-form concrete he had specified in a more contemporary design. Briefed to create a serene retreat for the client, who works long hours in the film industry, the designer chose Rockson 'Boost' Pearl floor tiles from Vedere Stone. Evenex Sincro Deep Grain Oak veneer from Elton Group. Walls in custom French Wash by Porter's Paints. Gubi 'Semi' pendant, and Fritz Hansen 'Essay CM12' table and 'Grand Prix' chairs from Cult. 'New York' box mirror from MCM House. HC28 Cosmo 'Stage' side table from Domo. 'Arka' chair from Thonet. Large framed artwork by Morgan Stokes from Curatorial+Co.

INTERIOR DESIGNER

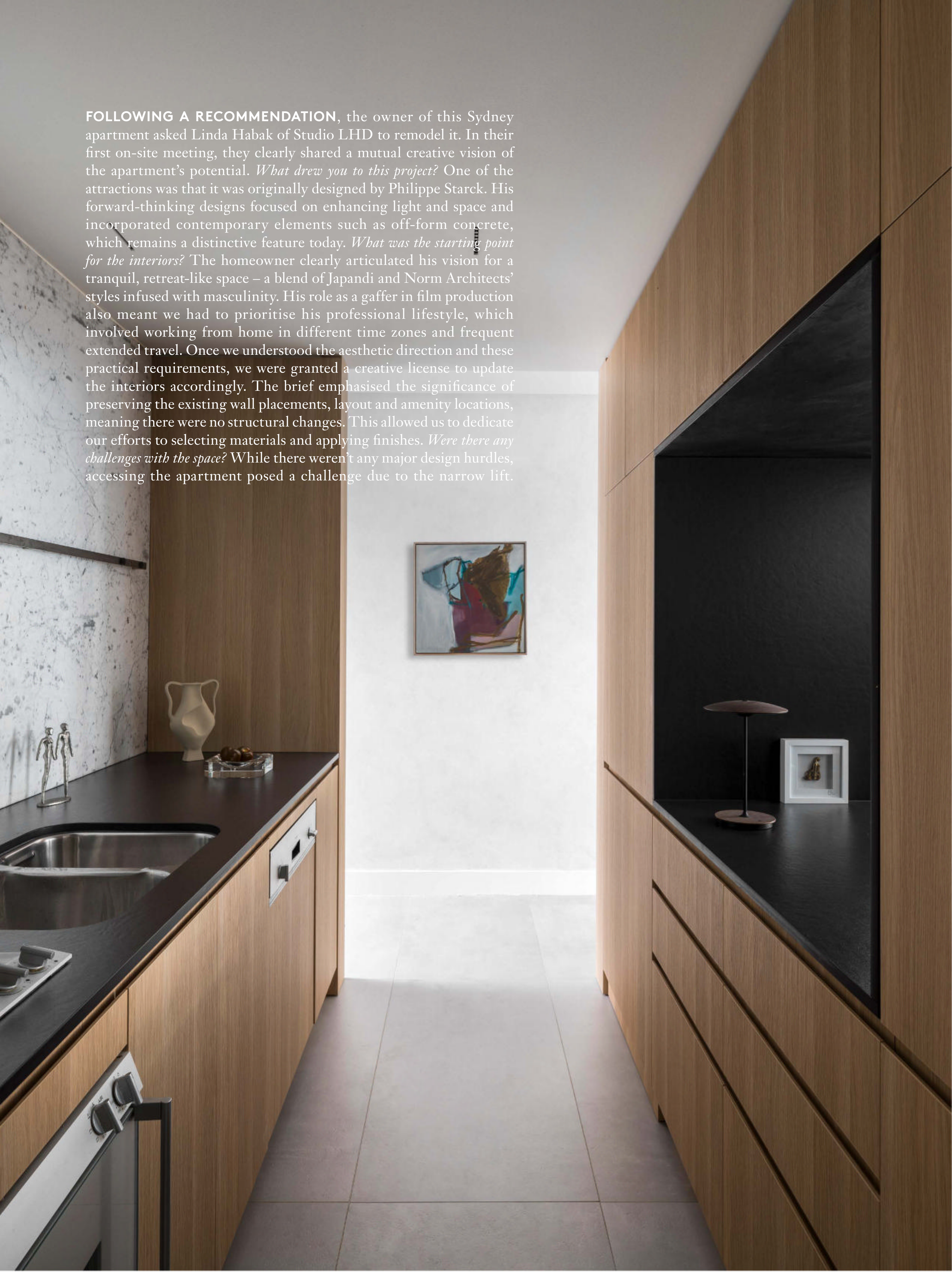
Linda Habak, Studio LHD

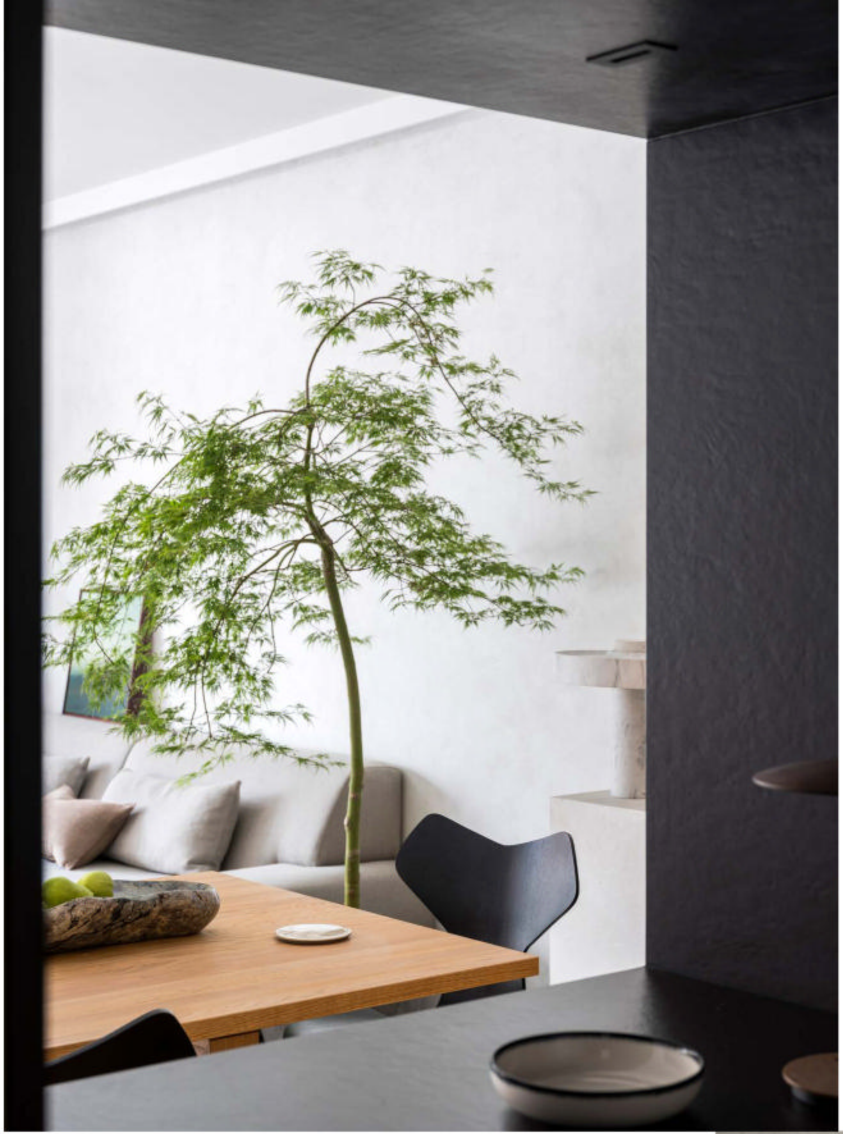
INNER-CITY ESCAPE

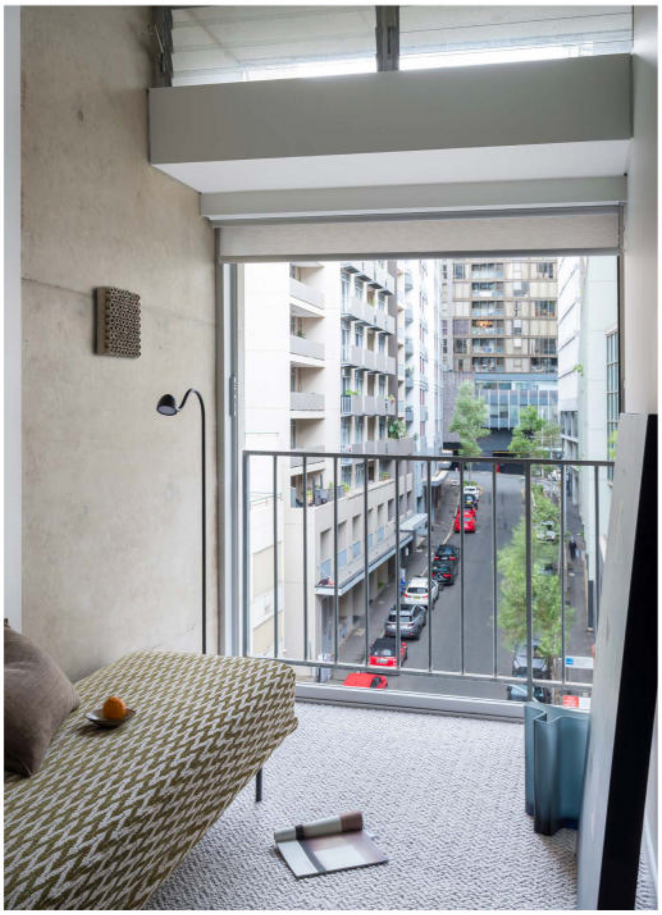
[Sydney, NSW]

Photography TOM FERGUSON
Styling TESS THYREGOD

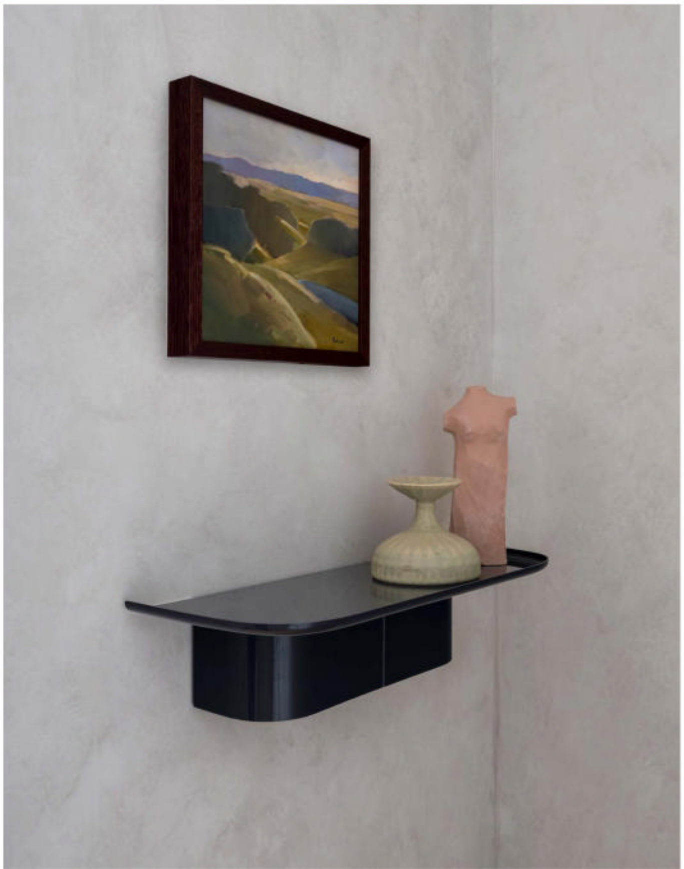
FOLLOWING A RECOMMENDATION, the owner of this Sydney apartment asked Linda Habak of Studio LHD to remodel it. In their first on-site meeting, they clearly shared a mutual creative vision of the apartment's potential. *What drew you to this project?* One of the attractions was that it was originally designed by Philippe Starck. His forward-thinking designs focused on enhancing light and space and incorporated contemporary elements such as off-form concrete, which remains a distinctive feature today. *What was the starting point for the interiors?* The homeowner clearly articulated his vision for a tranquil, retreat-like space – a blend of Japandi and Norm Architects' styles infused with masculinity. His role as a gaffer in film production also meant we had to prioritise his professional lifestyle, which involved working from home in different time zones and frequent extended travel. Once we understood the aesthetic direction and these practical requirements, we were granted a creative license to update the interiors accordingly. The brief emphasised the significance of preserving the existing wall placements, layout and amenity locations, meaning there were no structural changes. This allowed us to dedicate our efforts to selecting materials and applying finishes. *Were there any challenges with the space?* While there weren't any major design hurdles, accessing the apartment posed a challenge due to the narrow lift.

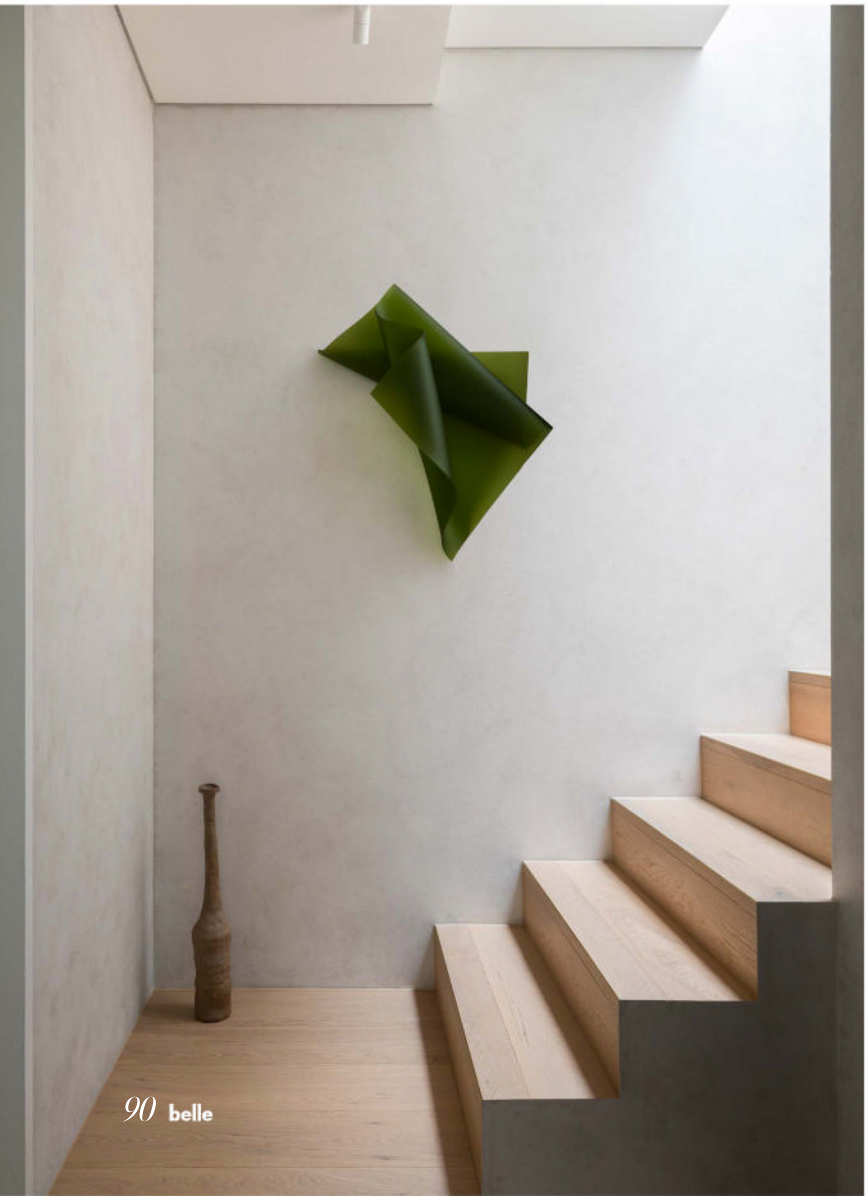






This page (clockwise from above) Greenery inside is like a breath of fresh air. Grazia & Co provided the sofa, a design called 'Agent 86'. Serax 'De Plate' from Spence & Lyda. Artwork by Theresa Hunt from Curatorial+Co. // A street view with 'Cali' bench, 'Lash' reading lamp and Ligne Roset 'T' vase from Domo. // Hay 'Copenhague CPH90' desk from Cult. Crystal vase from Greg Natale. Artwork by Steve Salo from Art2Muse. // A small cantilevered shelf creates a spot for an artwork by Steve Salo. Sculptures by Ulrica Trulsson (at left) and Kristiina Engelin from Curatorial+Co. **Opposite page** The benches in the galley kitchen feature Dekton 'Sirius Solid Collection' porcelain from Cosentino. 'Ginger' table lamp from Est Lighting. 'Sentire' vessel from Ignem Terre. 'Carter' bowl from Grey Natale. Artwork by Sharon Candy from Art2Muse.

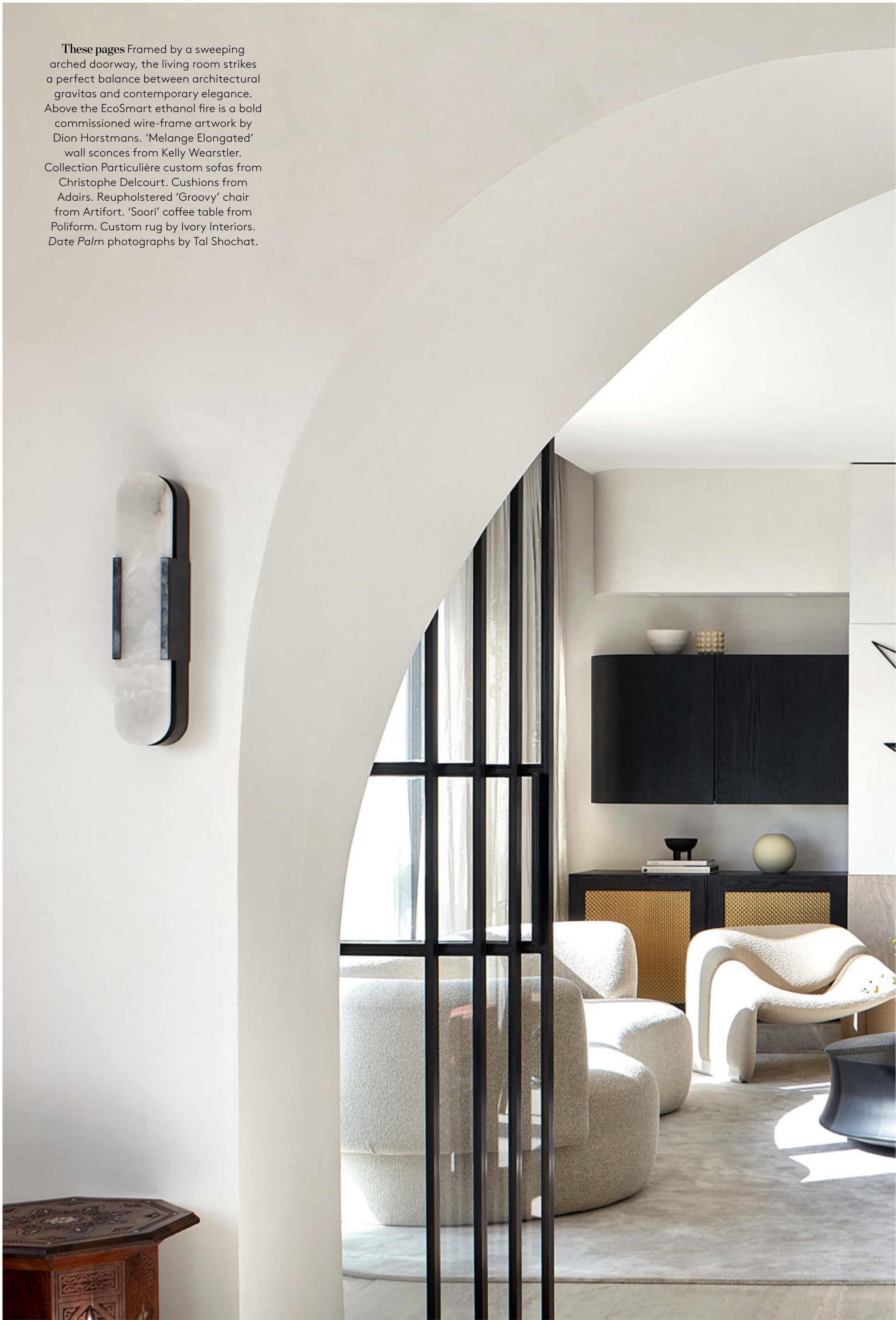


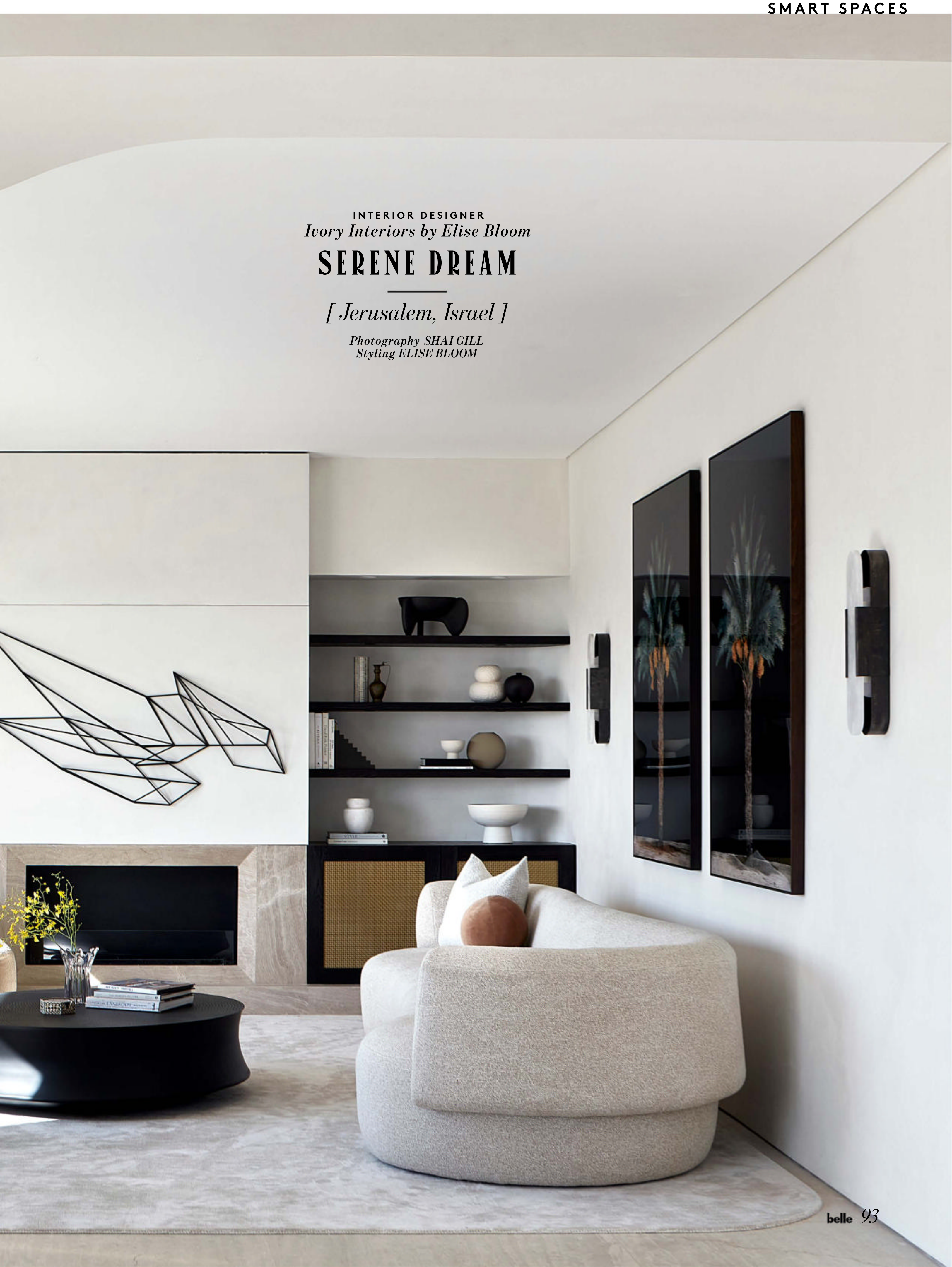


This required careful consideration for the delivery and installation of materials and furniture, such as opting for a sofa that could be delivered in two parts and assembled on site. *How would you describe the completed interior?* It is a serene haven, a minimalist space exuding a sense of peace, order and clarity. Upon entry, it provides a welcome escape from the outside chaos without forgoing an element of 'urban edge', reflecting its grungy, inner-city location. A neutral colour palette of soft, moody greys and warm timber dominates the aesthetic, while textural finishes on the walls and floors add depth. Finally, multiple layers of ambient lighting enhance the overall effect. *What are some of your favourite elements?* Our favourite is the application of timber veneers to wrap the walls as a continuous fabrication of the kitchen joinery. An obvious design decision was to envelop the entire central pod of the kitchen. However, when we also opted to extend the veneer to the walls leading to the kitchen, our vision for the transformation was truly brought to life. This continuity was extended to the main bedroom, where the same application conceals a discreet ensuite door, and the wood veneer extends to the bedhead wall. Another standout feature is the treatment of the walls. A Venetian plaster application was outside the budget's scope, so we experimented with whitewash techniques using finishes by Porter's Paints. The final walls appear velvet-like, adding depth and texture. Also worthy of mention is the custom joinery in the main bedroom. *Were there any devices employed to maximise the sense of space?* Maintaining consistent tones in the walls and floors played a crucial role in optimising the light and sense of spaciousness. The continuous use of warm timber veneer – Deep Grain Oak by Evenex Sincro – creates a cohesive visual flow. A calming palette of grey, green and accents of black mimic nature's earthiness. We kept furniture pieces minimal, and our final selection included only Australian local brands alongside classic Danish pieces. *Were you happy with the execution?* The final result didn't deviate from our initial concept and moodboards, which has to be the most satisfying resolution. *studio-lhd.com.au; @studio.lhd*

This page "The bespoke unit in the main bedroom provides extra storage and showcases the owner's cherished turntable," says Linda. "We paired the timber veneer with a green shelf insert (opposite top), creating one of our favourite design elements in this space." 'Roy' wall lights from VBO Australia. Coverlet in Chateau from In The Sac. Cushions from Polite Society. Sculptures on panelling by TC Overson from M Contemporary. **Opposite page** A nude sculpture by Pamela Drewitt Smith from Art2Muse sits in front of an artwork by Steve Salo from Art2Muse. 'Terres De Rêves' tube vase from Spence & Lyda. // The staircase is white smoked timber flooring from Woodcut. On the wall is a sculpture called *Nori#11* by Tan Arlidge. *Chalice of Independence #1* stoneware on floor by Karlien van Rooyen from Curatorial+Co.

These pages Framed by a sweeping arched doorway, the living room strikes a perfect balance between architectural gravitas and contemporary elegance. Above the EcoSmart ethanol fire is a bold commissioned wire-frame artwork by Dion Horstmans. 'Melange Elongated' wall sconces from Kelly Wearstler. Collection Particulière custom sofas from Christophe Delcourt. Cushions from Adairs. Reupholstered 'Groovy' chair from Artifort. 'Soori' coffee table from Poliform. Custom rug by Ivory Interiors. *Date Palm* photographs by Tal Shochat.





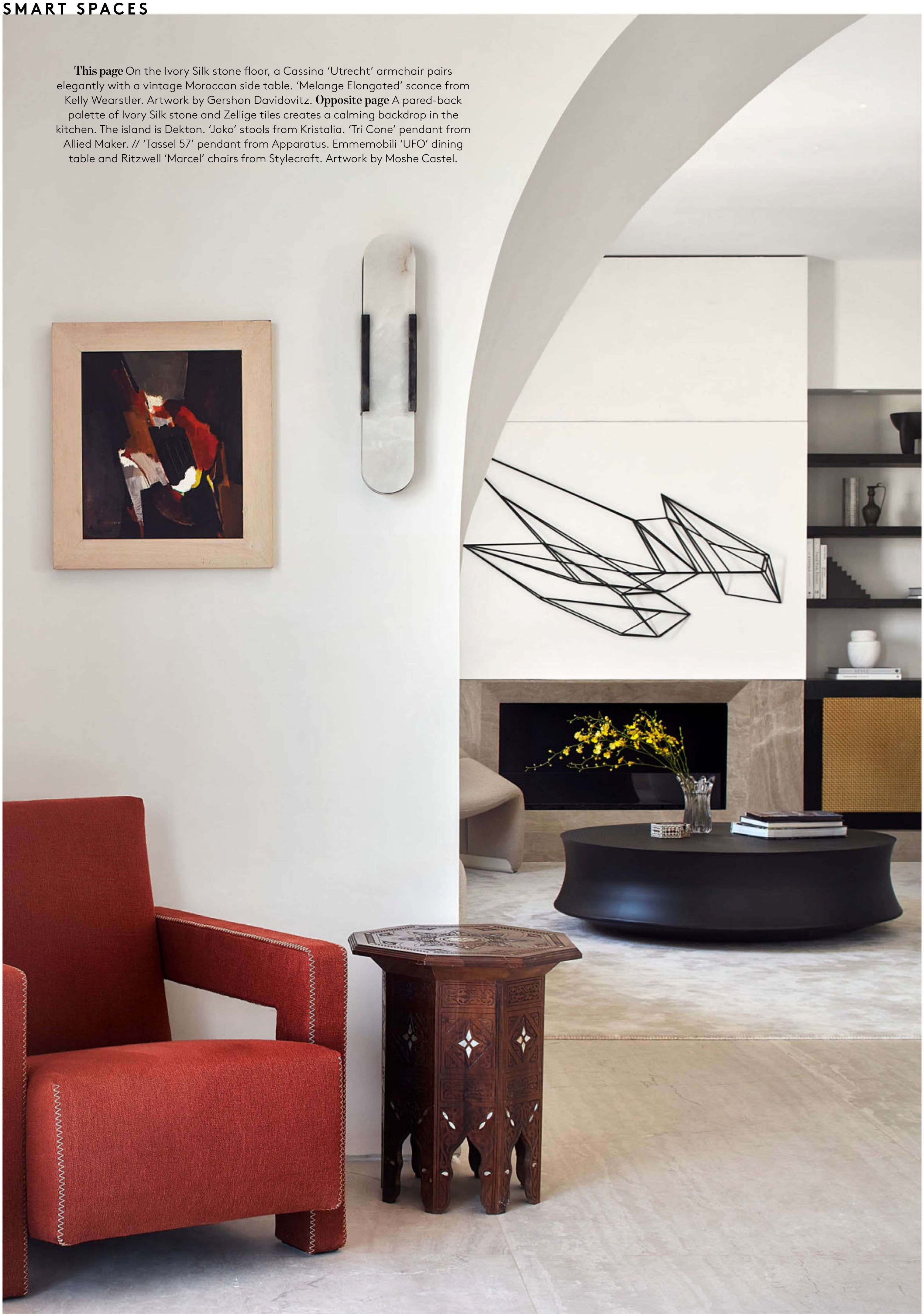
INTERIOR DESIGNER

Ivory Interiors by Elise Bloom

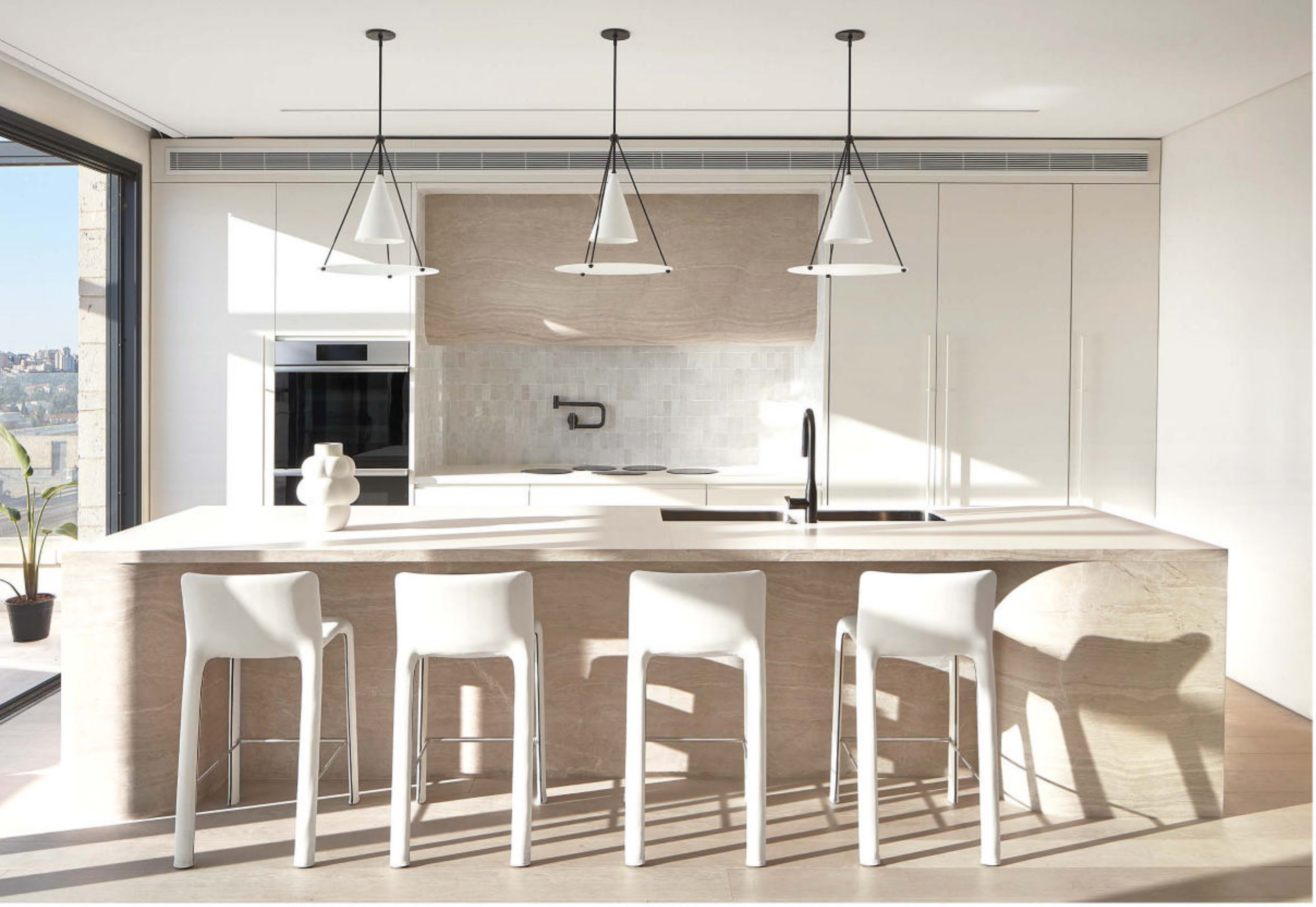
SERENE DREAM

[Jerusalem, Israel]

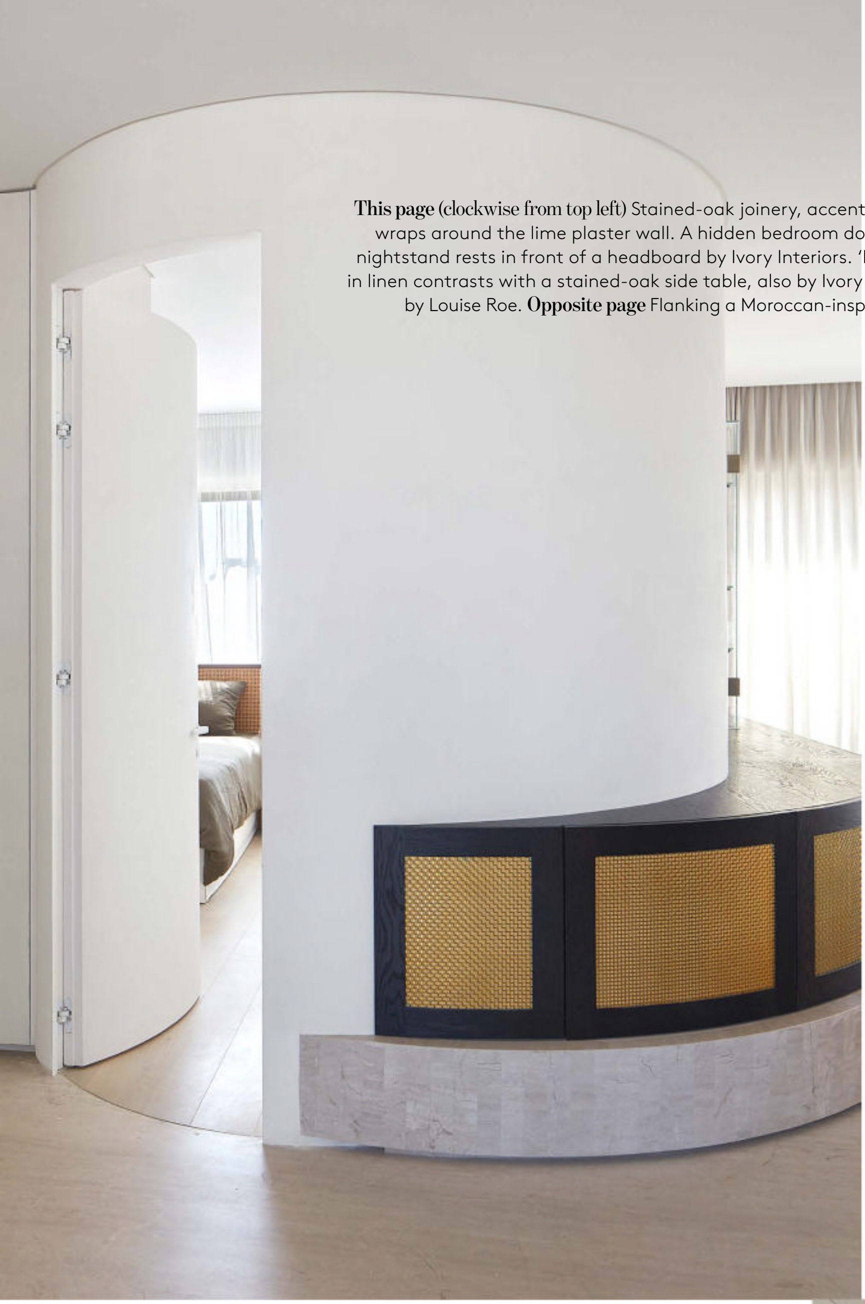
Photography SHAI GILL
Styling ELISE BLOOM



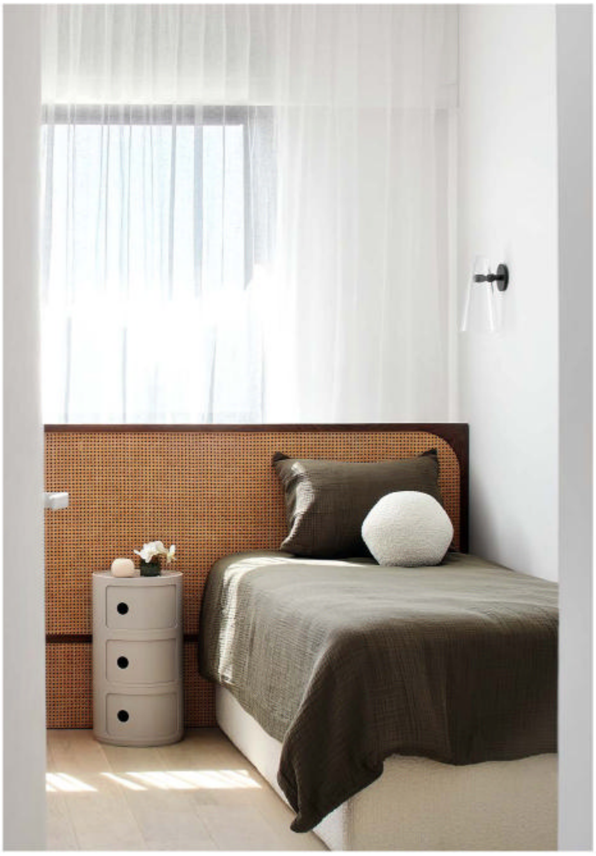
This page On the Ivory Silk stone floor, a Cassina 'Utrecht' armchair pairs elegantly with a vintage Moroccan side table. 'Melange Elongated' sconce from Kelly Wearstler. Artwork by Gershon Davidovitz. **Opposite page** A pared-back palette of Ivory Silk stone and Zellige tiles creates a calming backdrop in the kitchen. The island is Dekton. 'Joko' stools from Kristalia. 'Tri Cone' pendant from Allied Maker. // 'Tassel 57' pendant from Apparatus. Emmemobili 'UFO' dining table and Ritzwell 'Marcel' chairs from Stylecraft. Artwork by Moshe Castel.



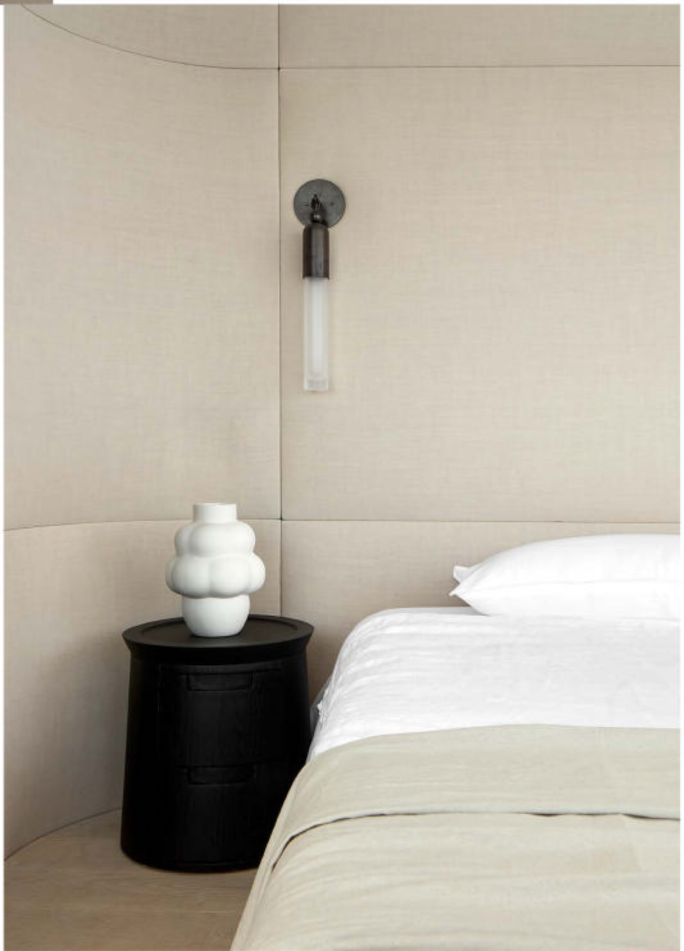
THIS APARTMENT STARTED LIFE as an empty 240-square-metre shell, which the owners wanted to turn into their dream holiday home. They have four young children and busy lives in New York and a second residence in Jerusalem was the realising of a 20-year dream for them. *What made the project attractive to you?* Having a blank canvas to mould was especially exciting; it gave me a lot of creative freedom. Working in the finance industry, my clients were keen to have a tranquil backdrop for their holidays. It was an exercise in restraint to create a quiet sense of luxury while keeping it relatively family-friendly. *How did you become involved with the project?* I've become one of the go-to designers for clients looking to create Middle Eastern holiday homes with a Western flare. The clients contacted me via my website because they liked my Australian design sensibilities and we both felt like a good fit for each other. I designed the entire apartment over nearly three years without meeting my clients face to face, because of the pandemic. *What was the starting point for the interiors?* The brief was to capture the spirit of the city, so the most obvious starting point was to draw inspiration from the emblematic sandy colour of the city's stone and the shape of its ancient archways. I wanted to blur the lines between apartment and city and make it feel like one cohesive space. *What were the challenges of the space and how did you resolve them?* It was an empty shell, so creating warmth and architectural interest was of utmost importance for a successful project. There was a low supportive beam separating the formal living and dining rooms. This presented an opportunity to create an architectural feature. I worked with the engineers and designed a sculpted archway to disguise the beam. It was a modern take on the ancient archways that can be spotted throughout the city, essentially taking a visual barrier and turning it into one of the main focal features of the project. *Were there any devices employed to maximise the apartment's sense of space?* The layout, colours and styling were carefully designed to do that. The use of curved walls in the main



This page (clockwise from top left) Stained-oak joinery, accented with raw brass grills, rests on a curved marble plinth that seamlessly wraps around the lime plaster wall. A hidden bedroom door, also in lime plaster, blends in effortlessly. // A Kartell 'Componibili' nightstand rests in front of a headboard by Ivory Interiors. 'Domi' sconce by Articolo. // In the main bedroom, a custom headboard in linen contrasts with a stained-oak side table, also by Ivory Interiors. 'Tassel' light in Blackened Brass from Apparatus. 'Balloon' vase by Louise Roe. **Opposite page** Flanking a Moroccan-inspired mirror in the powder room are 'Anton' sconces by Volker Haug.



hallway allowed us to open up corners, enhancing the connection between the lounge-dining and kitchen-living areas. Light-coloured, low-slung furniture complements and mimics the curves of the walls. *What informed the selection of fittings and finishes?* These were inspired by the city's stone colour, reflected in light materials such as lime/mineral plaster and lime paint. Brass accents were introduced to contrast those tones and reference Moroccan materiality. I nicknamed the project 'Mad Men in Morocco' alongside the official title of 'W Penthouse'. *How would you describe the completed interior?* It's a serene sanctuary that blends the historical essence of the ancient city with the timeless elegance of mid-century and Moroccan influences. Its thoughtful layering of elements creates a tranquil yet dynamic space that feels like a hug every time you walk in. *Do you have a favourite element?* Definitely the curved marble and joinery. We imported the raw brass grills from the UK and curved those, too. I also adore the dark brass and blown-glass pendant over the dining table. *What do you enjoy about being in the space?* I couldn't be happier with how it turned out. Bringing it all together at this level, despite the pandemic, feels like a true accomplishment. I also love what Australian designers bring to the space, especially the lighting by Articolo and Volker Haug, which add to the beauty. *ivoryinteriors.net; @ivoryinteriors_elisebloom*



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HOMES

In this Sydney home, glass doors were added to close off spaces while retaining sight lines. Desalto 'Clay' dining table from Ownworld. 'Alba' chairs from Tigmi Trading. Palmette Murano planter and chandelier from The Vault Sydney. Artwork by Michael Cusack from Olsen Gallery.

Photography
DAVE WHEELER

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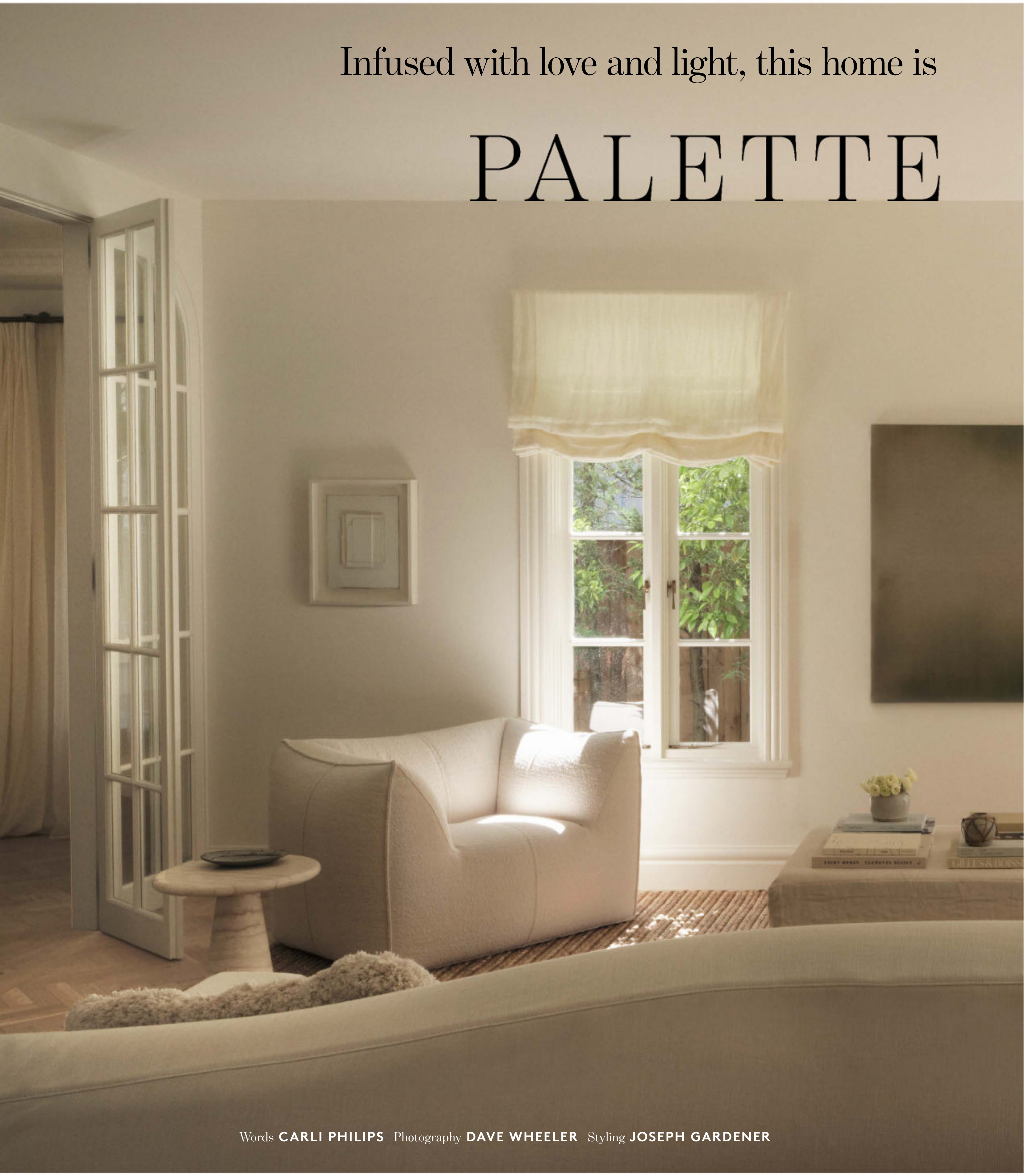
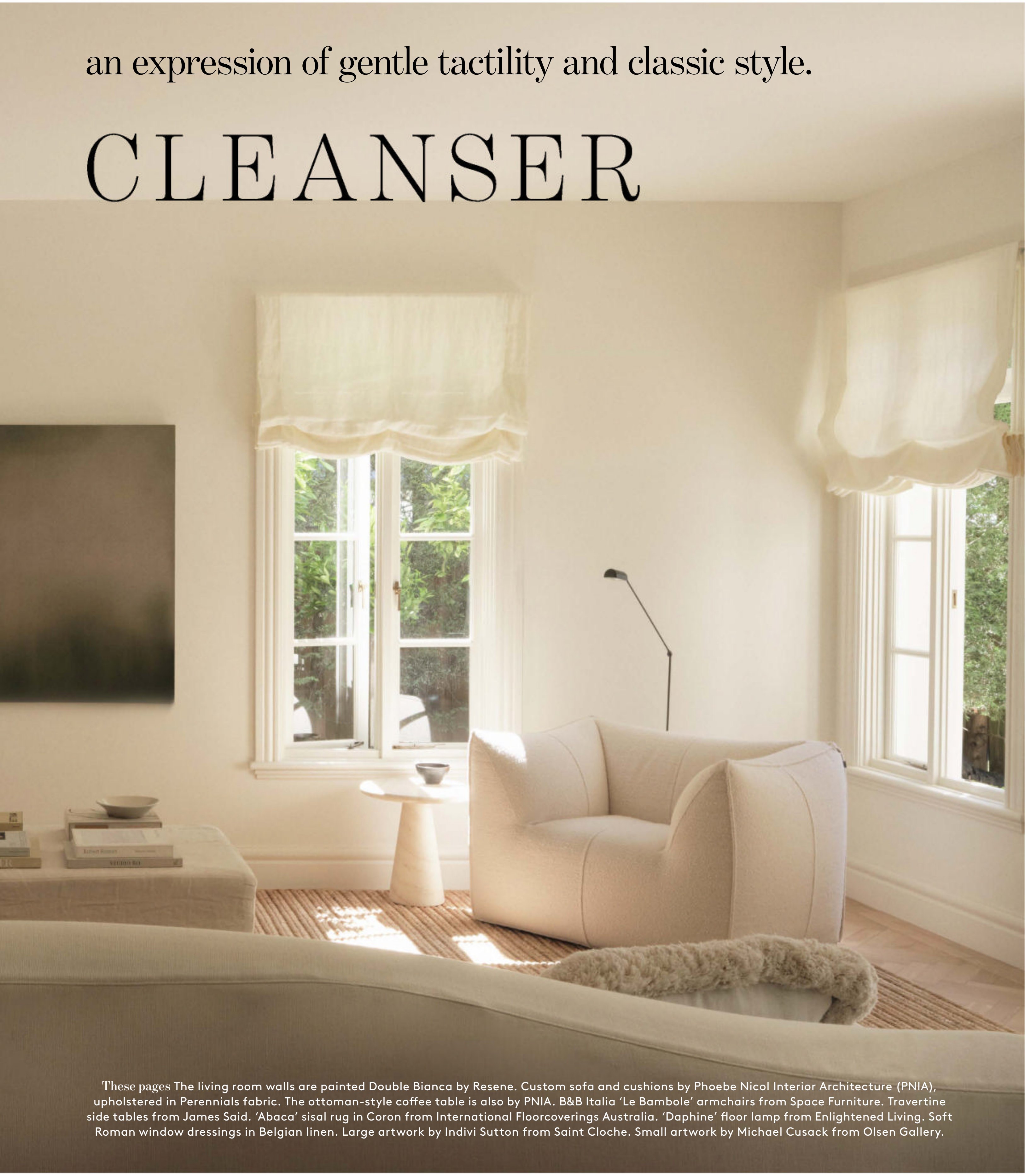
PALETTE



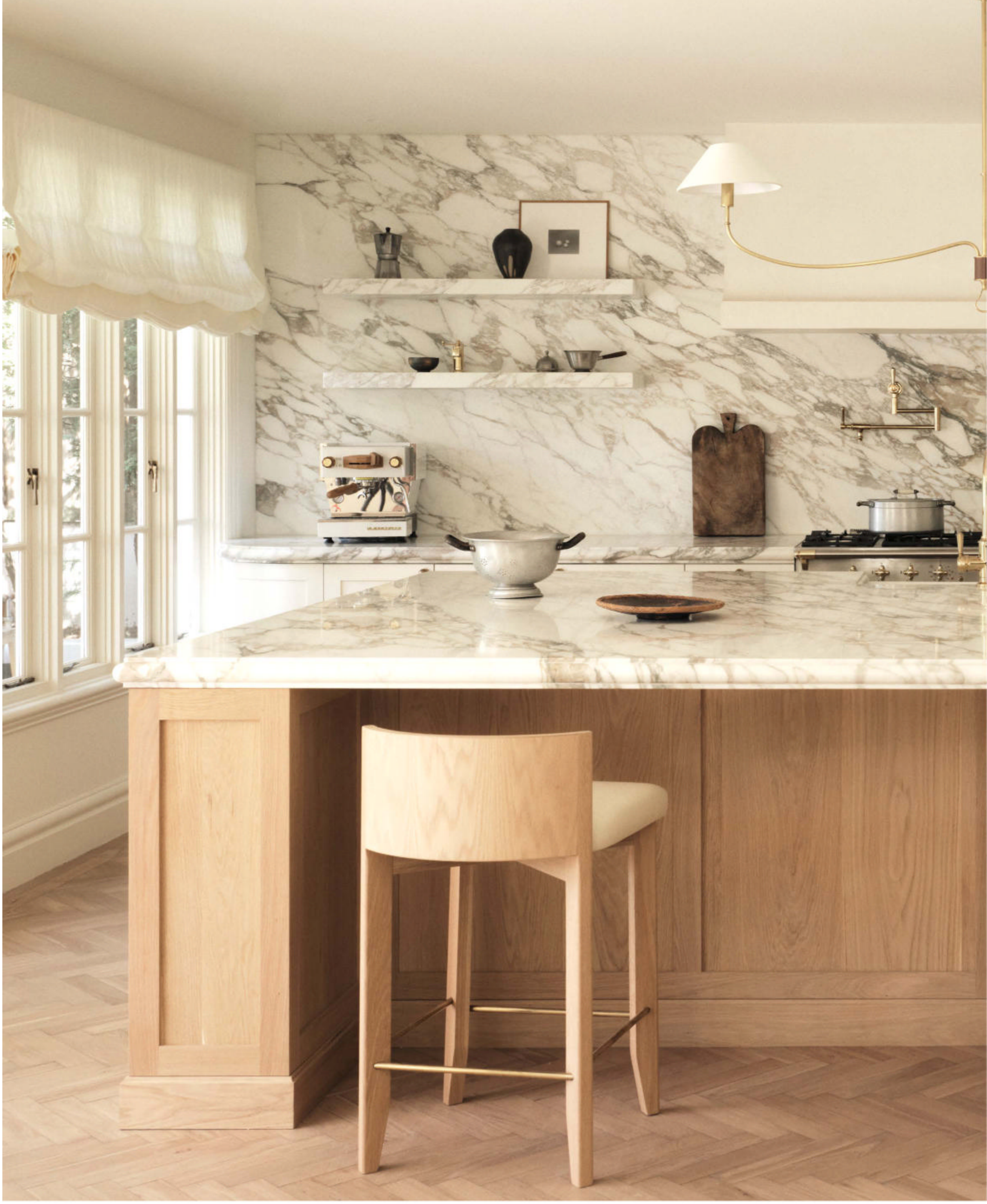
Words **CARLI PHILIPS** Photography **DAVE WHEELER** Styling **JOSEPH GARDENER** an expression of gentle tactility and classic style.

CLEANSER



These pages The living room walls are painted Double Bianca by Resene. Custom sofa and cushions by Phoebe Nicol Interior Architecture (PNIA), upholstered in Perennials fabric. The ottoman-style coffee table is also by PNIA. B&B Italia 'Le Bambole' armchairs from Space Furniture. Travertine side tables from James Said. 'Abaca' sisal rug in Coron from International Floorcoverings Australia. 'Daphine' floor lamp from Enlightened Living. Soft Roman window dressings in Belgian linen. Large artwork by Indivi Sutton from Saint Cloche. Small artwork by Michael Cusack from Olsen Gallery.

These pages The massive kitchen island is made from solid European oak by TTK Kitchens + Joinery. Calacatta Vagli Oro marble from FUM Australia – Corsi & Nicolai. Stonemason from Granite & Marble Works. Kitchen rangehood finished in microcement by Idea Creations. 'Sully Classic' oven from Lacanche. Taps from Brodware. La Marzocco coffee machine from Winnings. Soft Roman window dressings in Belgian linen. Oak bar stools by PNIA. Framed artworks by Jacques Vilet from Studio Gardner.

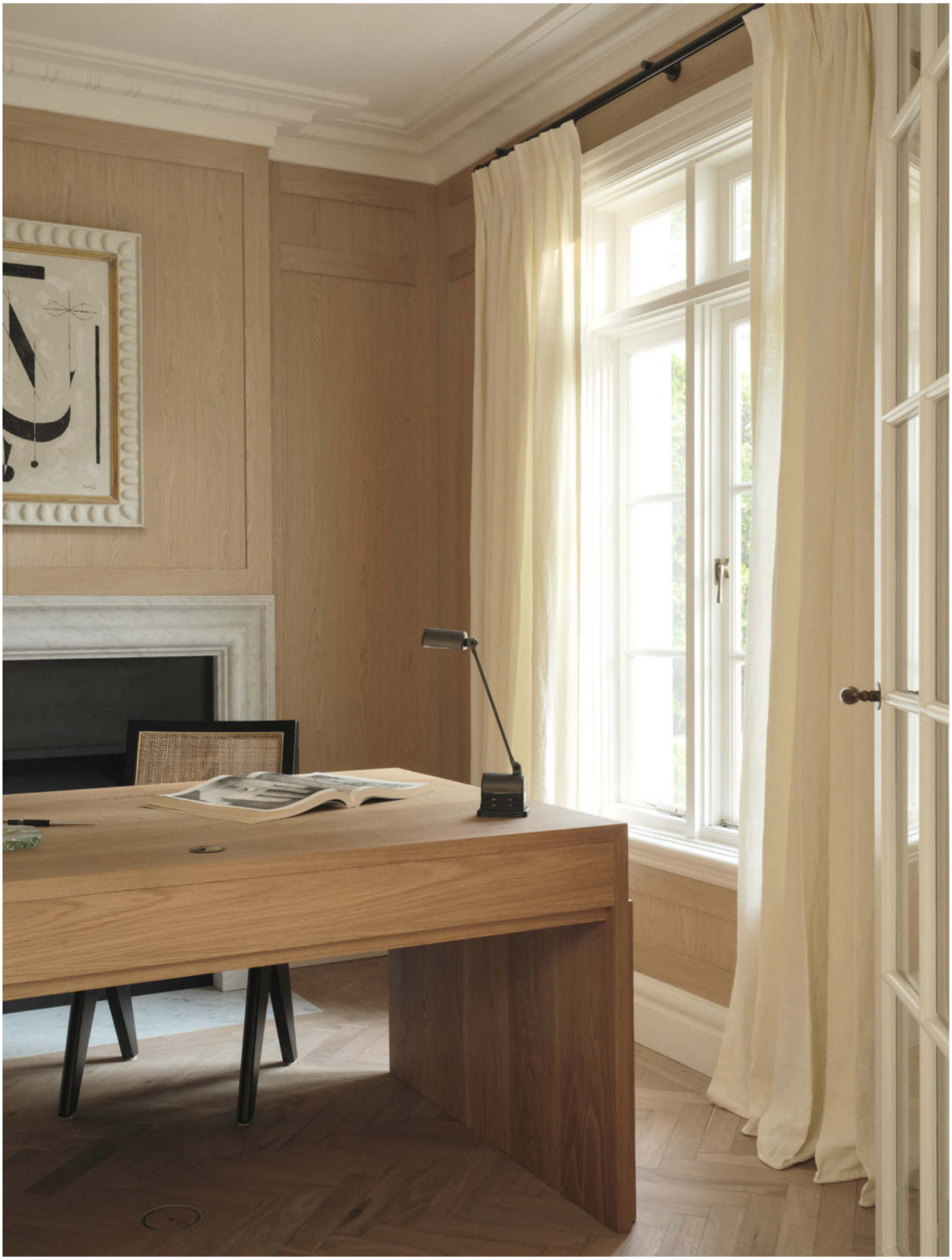


Kids and white furniture in the same breath is enough to send a chill down the spine of most parents. But despite small, grubby hands being powerful tools of destruction, the owners of this home in Sydney's Bellevue Hill by interior architect and antiques expert Phoebe Nicol were unconcerned – even though they had three children under three at the time.

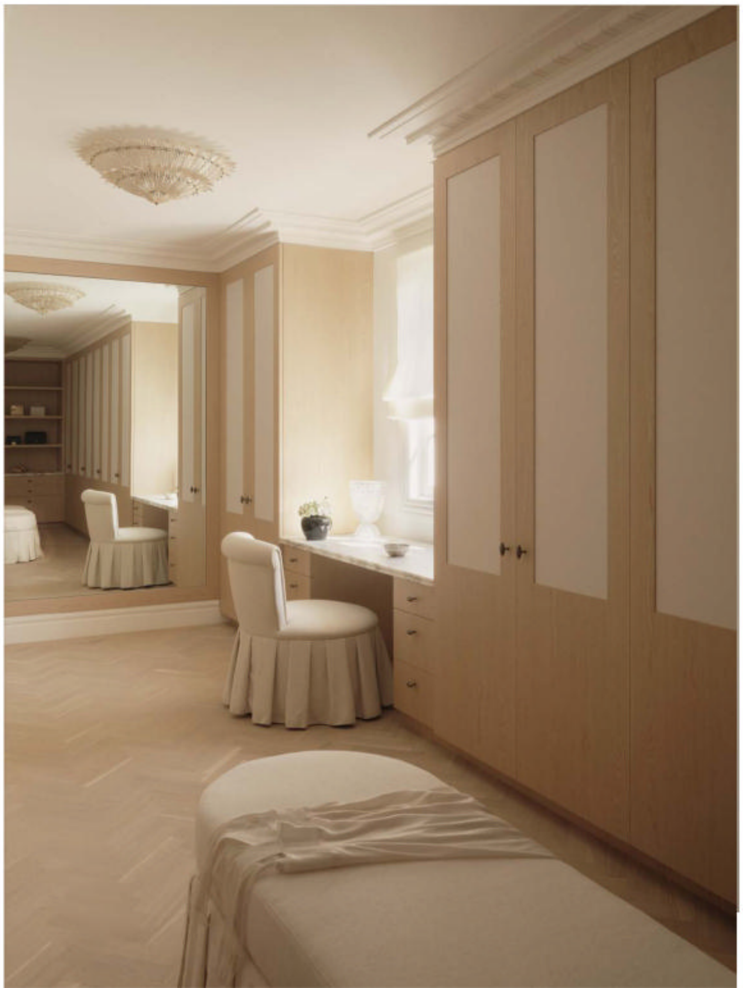
"People are shocked to see the house filled with so many neutral-toned furnishings," says the owner, Steffanie Tzaneros, who lives in the house with her husband, Michael, and their twin boys and daughter. "However, Phoebe was great at selecting fabrications that, while light in colour, are durable and easy to clean." Surprised but enthused by their brief, Phoebe says she remains stunned at how immaculate they have kept it.

The grand house in Bellevue Hill had some redeeming classical features but, while livable, didn't have much personality. In need of a major makeover, Phoebe undressed the interiors by pulling apart jarring divisions between the rooms to create a better-connected floor plan. "Our goal was to create an environment that felt bright and airy," she explains. "The owners wanted it to feel soft and subtle with a sense of calm and ease."

An unfortunate, heavyset bulkhead was the only major problem and couldn't be removed as it hid the services. Embracing the challenge of how to incorporate it into the design »



This page The study at the front of the house has an oak desk by TTK Kitchens + Joinery. 'Niclas' chair from James Said. 'Daphine' lamp from Enlightened Living. Artwork by Frank Howell from The Vault Sydney. **Opposite page (clockwise from top)** In the formal living area is a travertine fireplace by Richard Ellis. Aged-brass mirror and sofa by PNIA. Flemming Lessen-style armchair and mid-century cerused oak table from The Vault Sydney. Marble bowl by Angelo Mangiarotti from Studio Gardner. // 'La Roche' limestone flooring from Eco Outdoor. 'Valencay' wall lantern from Vaughan Designs. // At the entry is a Kifu Paris 'Chital' console from Becker Minty. Large 1940s Italian wall mirror by Giovanni Gariboldi from Nicholas & Alistair. Greg Natale 'Rope' marble bowl from Top3 By Design.



« scheme, Phoebe added new cornicing to create a coffered effect and, in the rest of the house, installed traditional elements such as skirtings and sculptural travertine fireplace surrounds for more character. "It's always about achieving balance – warm and cool, contemporary and classic," she says. "It's about creating an environment that's layered and considered."

A hallway runs through the centre of the house with a study and laundry along one side, and a new powder room tucked under the stairs. The biggest structural change was the introduction of architectural openings throughout the ground floor, the first being at the entrance to the study. Opposite, the formal living room opens to the dining room with a new set of arched, glass double doors enabling the spaces to be segregated but, at the same time, framed by sight lines to create better visual connectivity.

Part of Steffanie and Michael's brief was for a big entertainer's kitchen. Phoebe more than delivered, with a central island measuring 3.5 metres x 2.5 metres made from 12 chunky slabs of Calacatta Oro marble with a contrasting, solid European oak base that reads more like hefty furniture than a piece of joinery. "Steffanie is an amazing cook, so we wanted to create a ginormous island. There's also an amazing 1.4-metre Lacanche oven that took a year to arrive, plenty of bench area, loads of storage and a butler's pantry in case she needs to escape for a bit," jokes Phoebe.

Inspired by past travels and their years living abroad, Steffanie and Michael were seeking a European-meets-Mediterranean aesthetic. "We met in New York, got engaged in Italy and married in Greece, where both sets of grandparents are from. We fell in love with European architecture and Mediterranean-style interiors on our honeymoon and wanted to bring that feeling into our home," says Steffanie. "Like a little villa in the South of France."

Upstairs, one of the five existing bedrooms was converted into a walk-in-wardrobe with European oak Shaker joinery inlaid with linen wallpaper. All was going to plan but, during the design stage, Steffanie unexpectedly fell pregnant with twins. While they will share bedrooms for now, they'll eventually have their own rooms. Phoebe made changes to the playroom so it can eventually become a third child's room.

The couple's young daughter was the boss when it came to her room. "She wanted a 'princess bedroom', so we embraced her vision," says Phoebe. Top-to-toe in a sweet peekaboo pink, the tone contrasts with the other rooms for a cosier, more intimate feel. "The soft, subtle finish not only captures her love of the colour, but also ensures the room will grow with her, remaining a space she'll adore for years to come."

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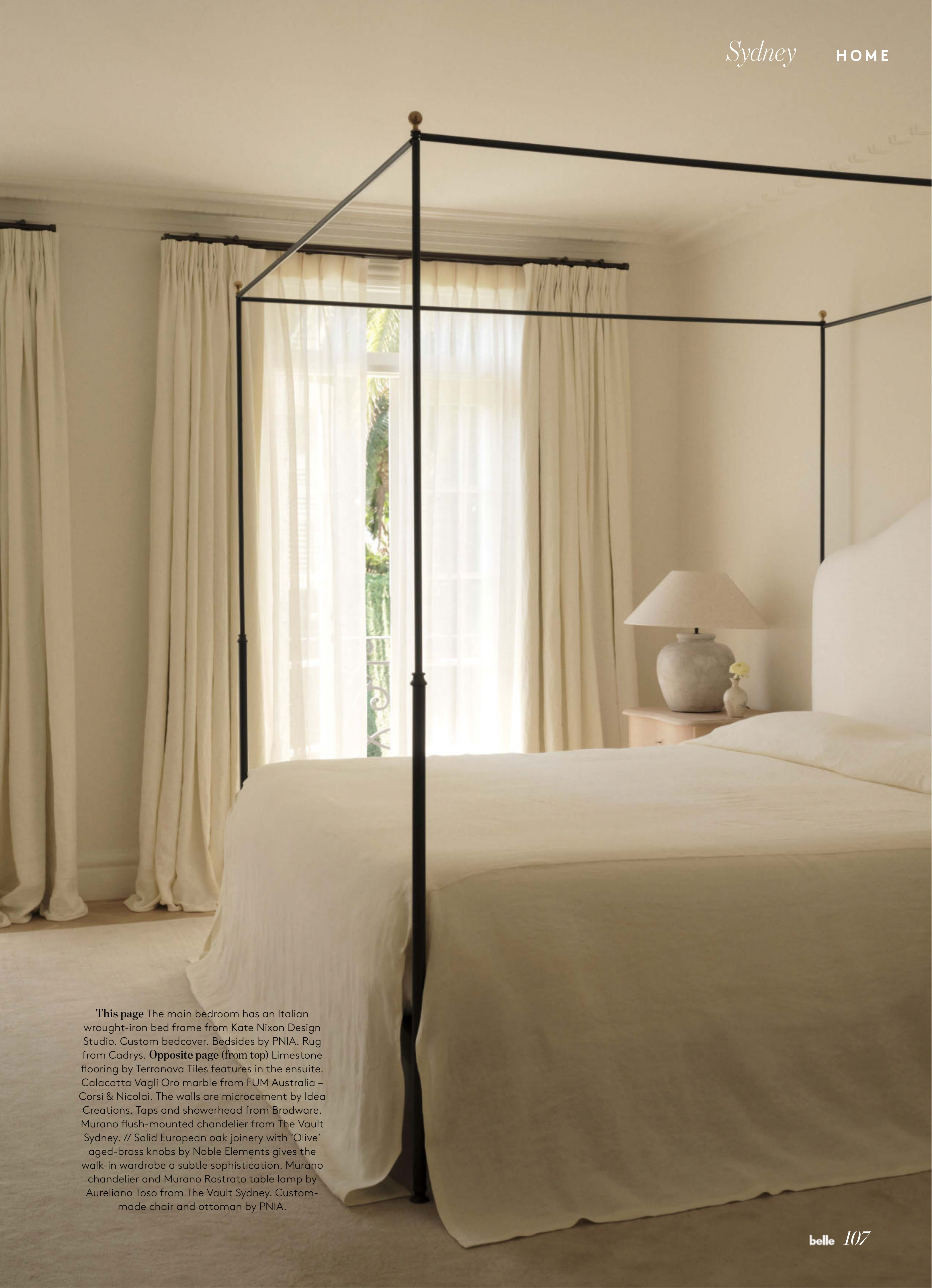
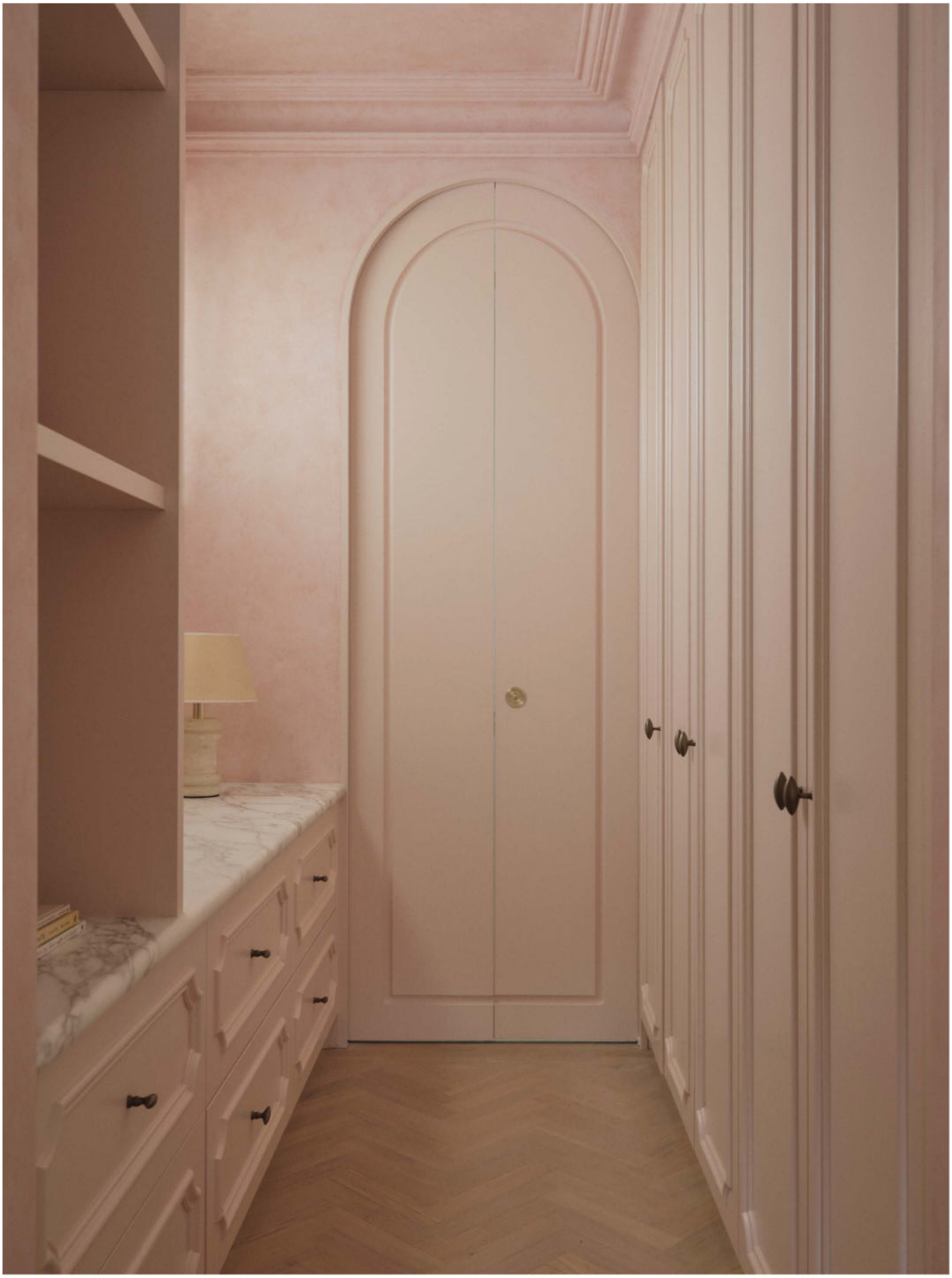


This page The main bedroom has an Italian wrought-iron bed frame from Kate Nixon Design Studio. Custom bedcover. Bedsides by PNIA. Rug from Cadrys. **Opposite page (from top)** Limestone flooring by Terranova Tiles features in the ensuite. Calacatta Vagli Oro marble from FUM Australia – Corsi & Nicolai. The walls are microcement by Idea Creations. Taps and showerhead from Brodware. Murano flush-mounted chandelier from The Vault Sydney. // Solid European oak joinery with 'Olive' aged-brass knobs by Noble Elements gives the walk-in wardrobe a subtle sophistication. Murano chandelier and Murano Rostrato table lamp by Aureliano Toso from The Vault Sydney. Custom-made chair and ottoman by PNIA.



This page In the daughter's walk-in wardrobe is more cabinetry by TTK Kitchens + Joinery. The stone on the benchtop is Calacatta Oro marble from FUM Australia – Corsi & Nicolai. Stonemason from Granite & Marble Works. 'Olive' knobs in Aged Brass from Noble Elements. Baluster turned-stone table lamp from The Vault Sydney. **Opposite page** The young girl's bedroom is a custom colour by Porter's Paints. Hand-painted joinery in Dulux Ellen. Bedhead, canopy and oak bedside tables designed by PNIA. Ivory linen bed cover from Cultiver. 'Eden' hand-dyed wool rug in Abalone from Armadillo.

1 'Amara' ceramic **table lamp** in Brown, $595, Coco Republic. **2** Superlative White Brazilian **quartzite** in Classic White with Earthy Tones, POA, Signorino. **3** 'Nest' porcelain **bowl**, $260 for large, Mud Australia. **4** 'Basden' **chandelier**, $1890, The Montauk Lighting Co. **5** 'Sunday' **sofa**, POA, Poliform.

This page (from top) In the stairwell, the walls are painted Resene Double Bianca. Hammered-steel handrail by Pro Metal Design. // The walls of the playroom bathroom are finished in microcement by Idea Creations. Calacatta Vagli Oro marble from FUM Australia – Corsi & Nicolai. Stonemason from Granite & Marble Works. Taps from Brodware. **Opposite page** A custom rug from The Rug Establishment softens the playroom floor. The box-pleat sofa bed by PNIA is finished in a custom limewash. Large floor cushion by PNIA in Chelsea Textiles gingham.

SPEED READ

» Despite having three young children, the owners of this home in Sydney's Bellevue Hill wanted a light interiors palette. » Interior architect Phoebe Nicol replaced jarring walls with arched openings for gentler transitions and better sightlines. » New skirtings and cornices were added for a layered and more traditional feel. » A large kitchen with a massive island was part of the brief. » One of the existing five bedrooms has been converted into a large walk-in-wardrobe. » Inspired by their travels and living abroad, the owners requested a European-architecture-meets-modern-Mediterranean aesthetic.

5 SIGNATURE STYLE KEY PIECES

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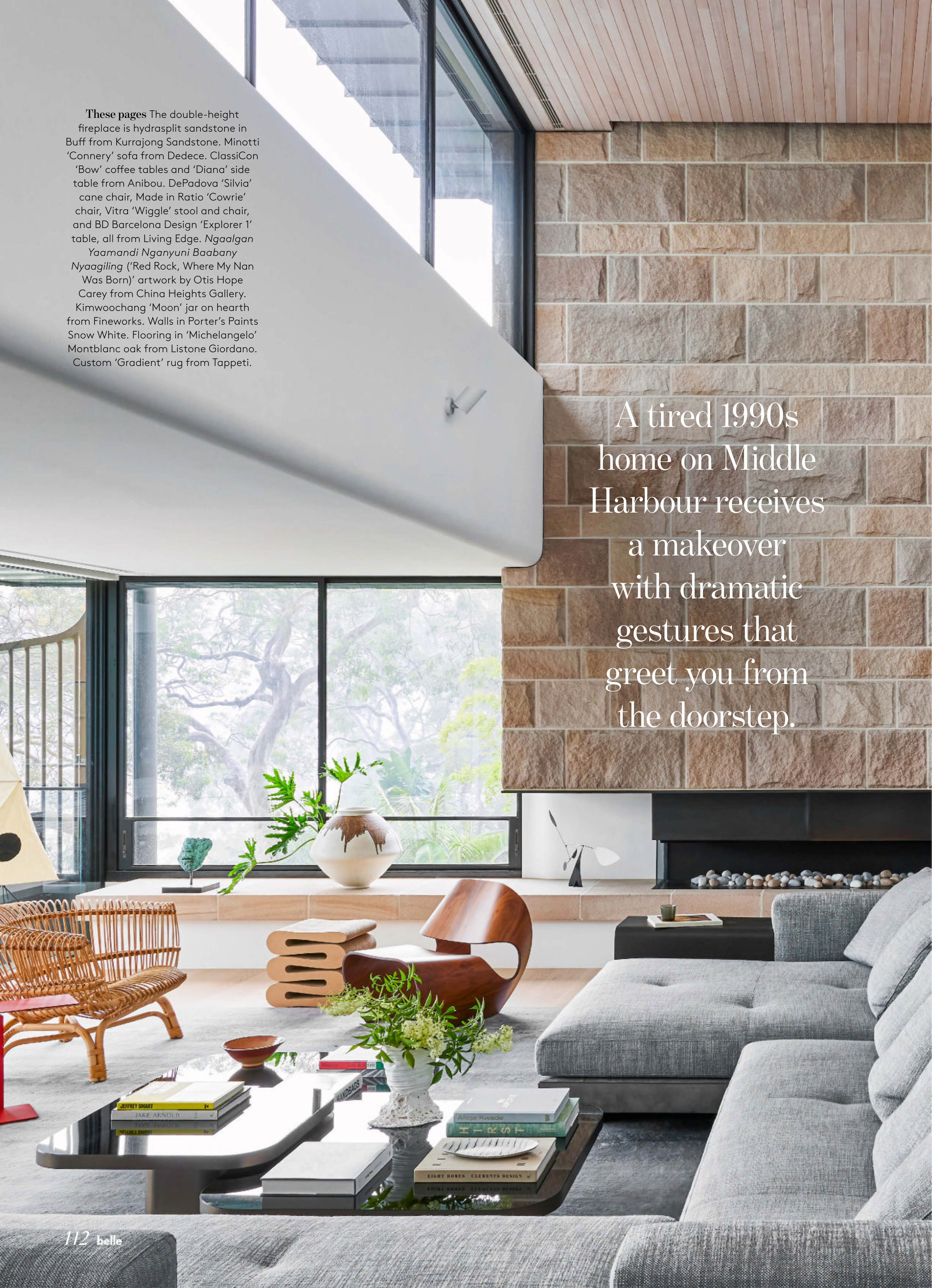


These pages The double-height fireplace is hydrasplit sandstone in Buff from Kurrajong Sandstone. Minotti 'Connery' sofa from Dedece. ClassiCon 'Bow' coffee tables and 'Diana' side table from Anibou. DePadova 'Silvia' cane chair, Made in Ratio 'Cowrie' chair, Vitra 'Wiggle' stool and chair, and BD Barcelona Design 'Explorer 1' table, all from Living Edge. *Ngaalgan Yaamandi Nganyuni Baabany Nyaagiling* ('Red Rock, Where My Nan Was Born)' artwork by Otis Hope Carey from China Heights Gallery. Kimwoochang 'Moon' jar on hearth from Fineworks. Walls in Porter's Paints Snow White. Flooring in 'Michelangelo' Montblanc oak from Listone Giordano. Custom 'Gradient' rug from Tappeti.

A tired 1990s home on Middle Harbour receives a makeover with dramatic gestures that greet you from the doorstep.

STAR QUALITY

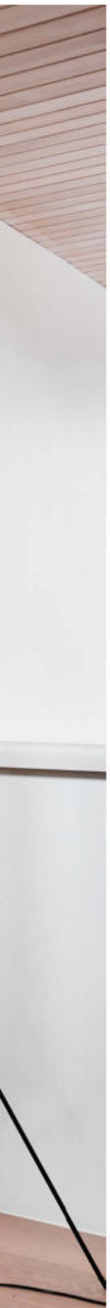
Words **CHRIS PEARSON** Photography **PABLO VEIGA** Styling **ATELIER LAB**

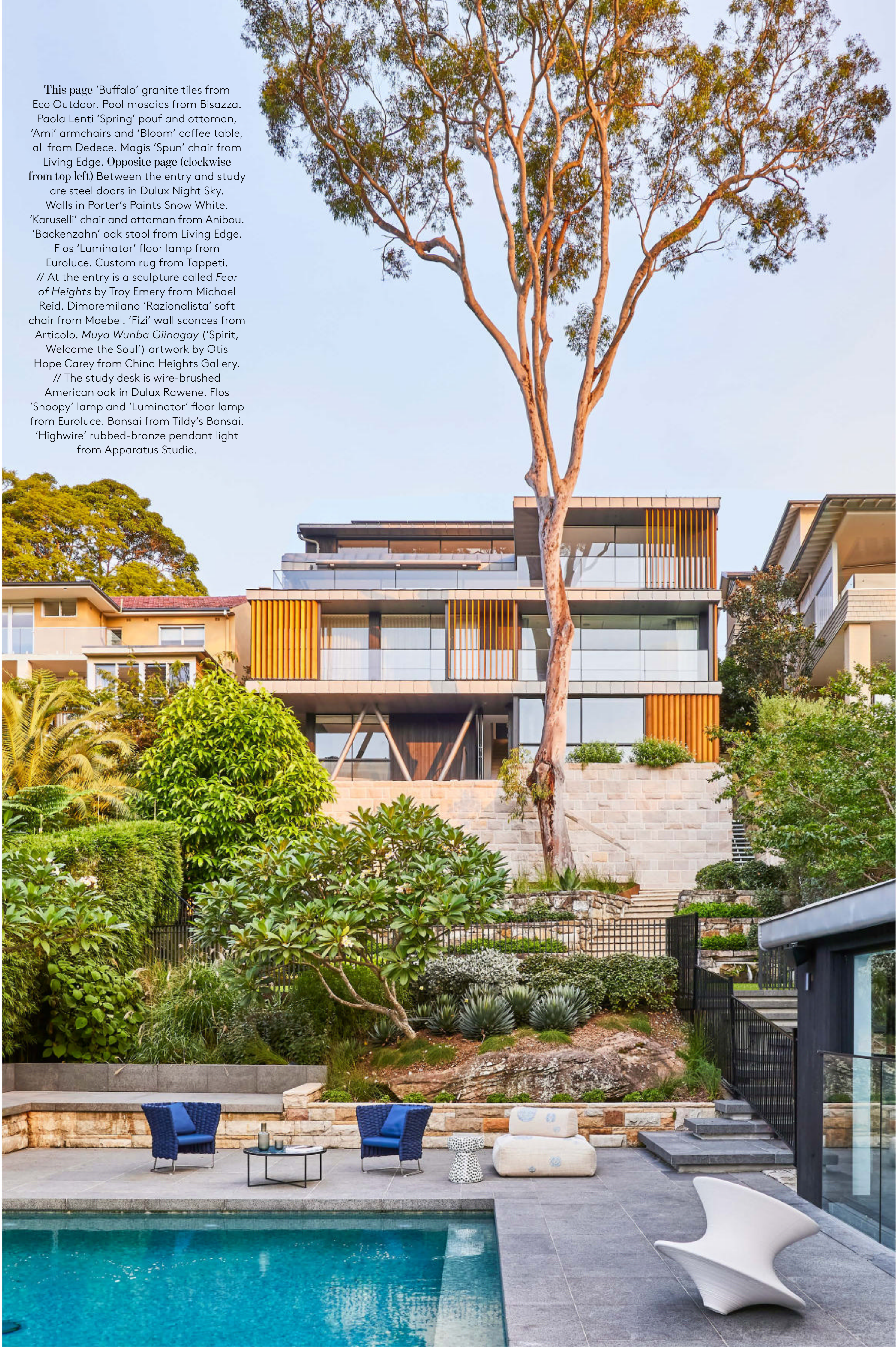
The designers of this four-bedroom home on Sydney's Middle Harbour know how to make an entrance. At the front door, a mezzanine with water views hovers over a two-storey void and lures you toward a sinuous spiral staircase, which glides down to a chic conversation hub below. With echoes of a Hollywood film set, this scene-stealing spectacle has been directed by architect Blake Letnic and interior designer Lauren Mahoney of Studio Trio.

The home, built late last century, ticked many boxes for the owners when they bought it in 2016. But, while offering lashings of light and expansive bush and water views, it was tired, with much of the five levels under-utilised. The owners wanted it to function better for them and their two adult children while upping the wow factor. "The rooms were squashed together and it was a clash of angles and odd curves. And concrete columns on the facade made it feel closed in," says Blake. "The owners asked us to expand the sense of volume in the living spaces and make use of an idle rumpus on the bottom level."

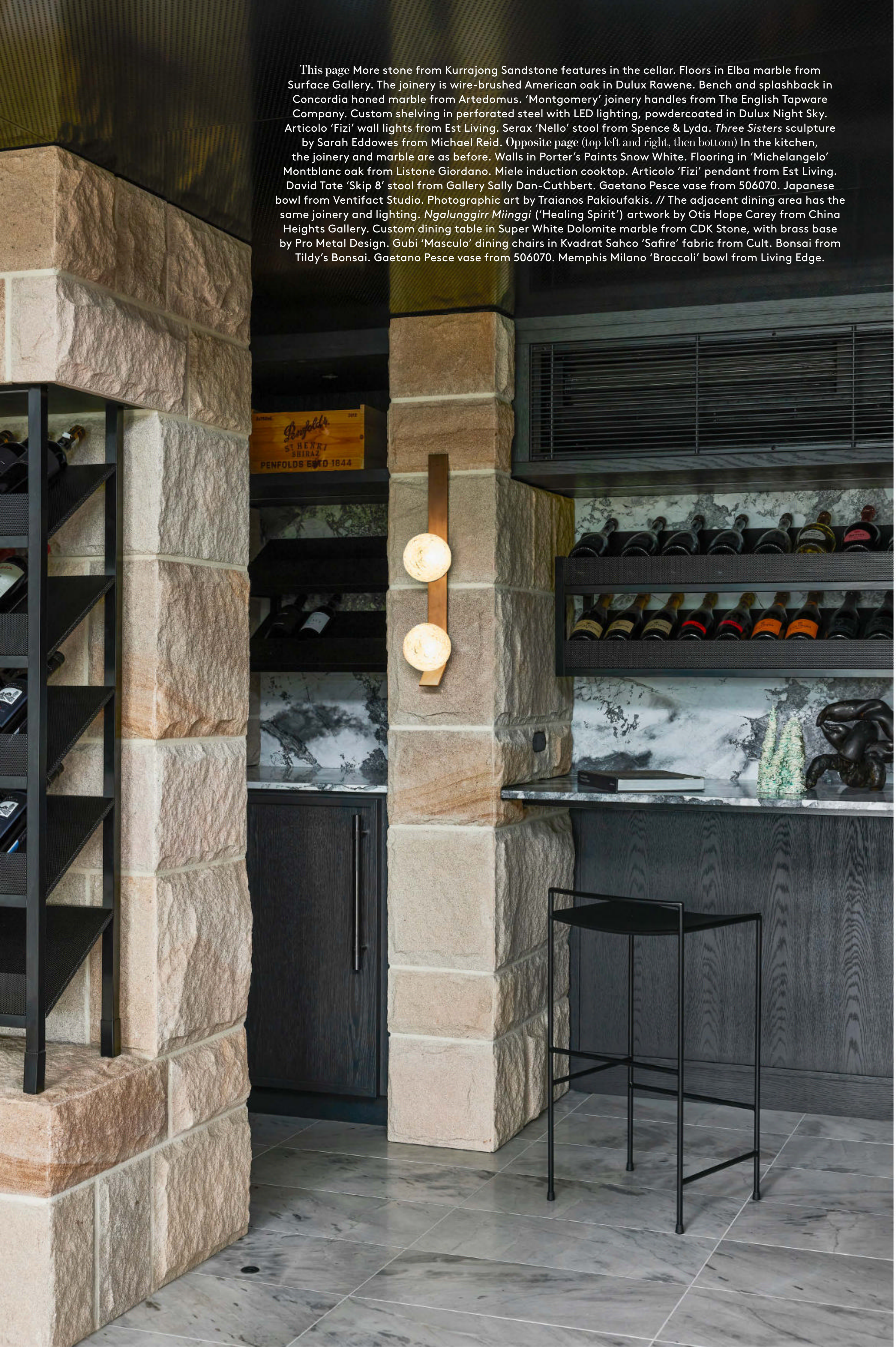
Working within the envelope, Blake made the radical move of slicing off the top layer, a one-time children's attic, and replaced it with a skillion roof, underplanted by a roof garden, which softens the facade and creates a street presence. A steel ribbon awning sweeps around the facade and melds into a bay window, which offers a peek inside.

Meanwhile, on the water side overlooking a pool and cabana, he replaced doors and windows with ultra-slim »





This page 'Buffalo' granite tiles from Eco Outdoor. Pool mosaics from Bisazza. Paola Lenti 'Spring' pouf and ottoman, 'Ami' armchairs and 'Bloom' coffee table, all from Dedece. Magis 'Spun' chair from Living Edge. **Opposite page (clockwise from top left)** Between the entry and study are steel doors in Dulux Night Sky. Walls in Porter's Paints Snow White. 'Karuselli' chair and ottoman from Anibou. 'Backenzahn' oak stool from Living Edge. Flos 'Luminator' floor lamp from Euroluce. Custom rug from Tappeti. // At the entry is a sculpture called *Fear of Heights* by Troy Emery from Michael Reid. Dimoremilano 'Razionalista' soft chair from Moebel. 'Fizi' wall sconces from Articolo. *Muya Wunba Giinagay* ('Spirit, Welcome the Soul') artwork by Otis Hope Carey from China Heights Gallery. // The study desk is wire-brushed American oak in Dulux Rawene. Flos 'Snoopy' lamp and 'Luminator' floor lamp from Euroluce. Bonsai from Tildy's Bonsai. 'Highwire' rubbed-bronze pendant light from Apparatus Studio.



This page More stone from Kurrajong Sandstone features in the cellar. Floors in Elba marble from Surface Gallery. The joinery is wire-brushed American oak in Dulux Rawene. Bench and splashback in Concordia honed marble from Artedomus. 'Montgomery' joinery handles from The English Tapware Company. Custom shelving in perforated steel with LED lighting, powdercoated in Dulux Night Sky. Articolo 'Fizi' wall lights from Est Living. Serax 'Nello' stool from Spence & Lyda. *Three Sisters* sculpture by Sarah Eddowes from Michael Reid. **Opposite page** (top left and right, then bottom) In the kitchen, the joinery and marble are as before. Walls in Porter's Paints Snow White. Flooring in 'Michelangelo' Montblanc oak from Listone Giordano. Miele induction cooktop. Articolo 'Fizi' pendant from Est Living. David Tate 'Skip 8' stool from Gallery Sally Dan-Cuthbert. Gaetano Pesce vase from 506070. Japanese bowl from Ventifact Studio. Photographic art by Traianos Pakioufakis. // The adjacent dining area has the same joinery and lighting. *Ngalunggirr Miinggi* ('Healing Spirit') artwork by Otis Hope Carey from China Heights Gallery. Custom dining table in Super White Dolomite marble from CDK Stone, with brass base by Pro Metal Design. Gubi 'Masculo' dining chairs in Kvadrat Sahco 'Safire' fabric from Cult. Bonsai from Tildy's Bonsai. Gaetano Pesce vase from 506070. Memphis Milano 'Broccoli' bowl from Living Edge.

ST HENRI
SHIRAZ
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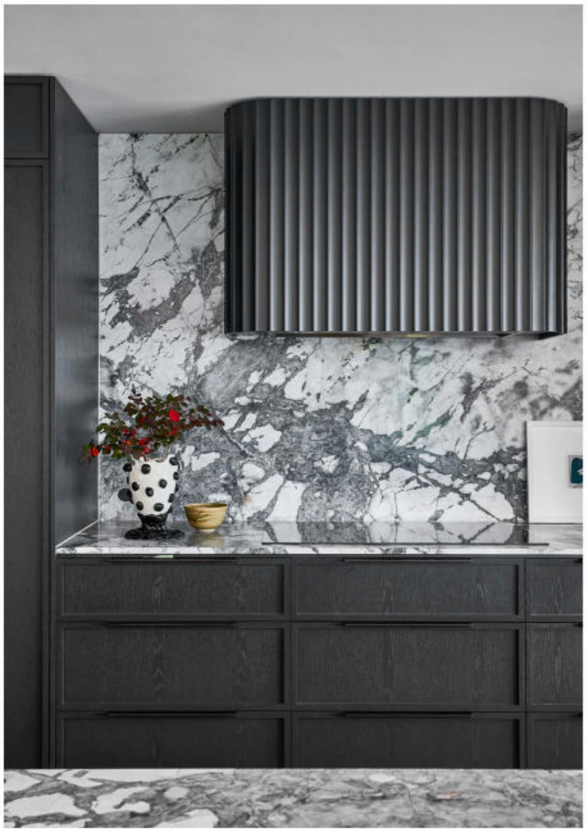
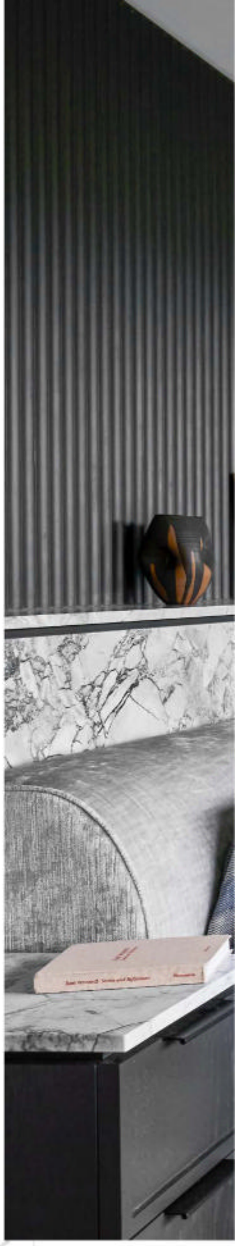


« Vitrocsa openings and metal balustrades with glass. He added slatted-timber screens for privacy, light control and to "break up the linear expanses", as well as tidying up clumsy curves and angles and installing a sandstone base to create a sense of place.

Inside, Blake and Lauren really went to town. Utilising an existing void near the entry, he replaced a simple staircase set well back with that sweeping spiral that snakes down into the open plan under an undulating ribbed-timber ceiling. "The stairs provide a sculptural element and make it feel like one space. It creates a presence and everything spirals out of that," says Blake. Anchoring the space below is a sandstone fireplace soaring two levels up to the ceiling and cantilevered, with a massive hearth that morphs into a shelf. To one side is a cellar, separated from the living area by Crittall steel-framed doors.

On the bedroom level, he extended the main bedroom out onto the balcony and another was sacrificed to enlarge the ensuite and a second bedroom, making three on that level. Meanwhile, on the lowest of the four levels is another bedroom and a home cinema replacing the unused rumpus.

"For the interior, the owners wanted something upmarket with an edge, using steel and sandstone to reflect the exteriors," says Lauren. They travel to Canada a lot, where they ski, so there is a bit of 'mountain lodge' in the inspiration. "Natural elements oak and sandstone were on the agenda, while in the kitchen, dining and cellar, this is a charred look in wire-brushed, dark-stained oak, for »

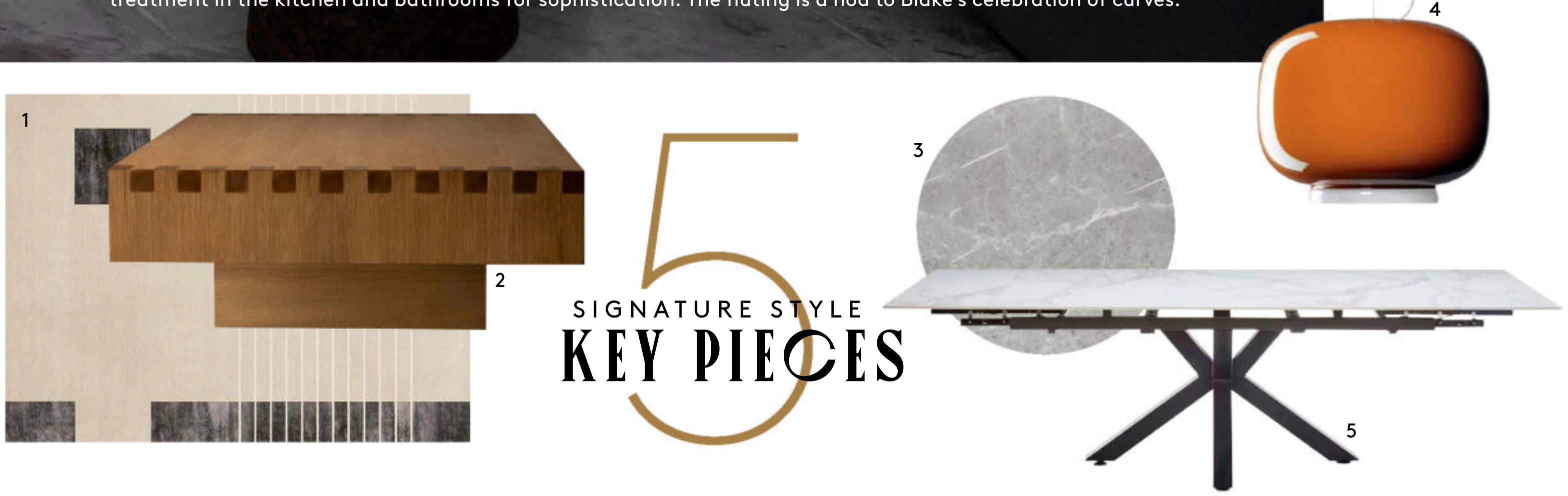


This page Striking flat and concave Elba marble tiles from Surface Gallery grace the walls and floors of the main ensuite. 'Agape' bath from Artedomus. 'Yokato' bath mixer in Aged Iron from Brodware. Shower door in steel with fluted glass. ClassiCon 'Corker #3' stool from Anibou. **Opposite page (from top)** In the main bedroom is custom joinery with fluting in Dulux Rawene and Super White Dolomite marble from CDK Stone. Bedhead in 'Mirage' velvet from Unique Fabrics. 'Collide' bedcover from Cultiver. Articolo 'Lumi' wall light from Est Living. Curtains in Designers Guild 'Bellavista' Ombre. Gaetano Pesce vase from 506070. Serax glazed planter from Spence & Lyda. *Blackbird* artwork on ledge by Mark Maurangi Carrol from Nasha Gallery. Main artwork by Tim Summerton from Olsen Gallery. // The pool area.

SPEED READ

» The owners bought this 1990s home in 2016, drawn by its light-filled interiors and harbourside location. » Both the exterior and interiors were dated and included clumsy elements that ill-suited the family of four. A children's attic on the top of the five levels and a rumpus room at the bottom were little used. » Architect Blake Letnic shaved off the top level and replaced it with a skillion roof. He tidied up the facades by taking out odd angles and curves so it reads better as one. On the harbourside, he removed concrete columns and replaced windows and doors with slimline Vitrocsa and timber screens. » A new sandstone plinth anchors the home to the site, with the exterior materiality reprised inside with a sandstone cantilevered fireplace, while a spiral staircase is suitably monumental. » In answer to the owner's brief for 'an edge', interior designer Lauren Mahoney of Studio Trio played up the scale with oversized furniture and artworks. She has used sandstone and oak, the latter given a dark treatment in the kitchen and bathrooms for sophistication. The fluting is a nod to Blake's celebration of curves.

5 SIGNATURE STYLE KEY PIECES



1 'Tratto' **rug**, POA, Poliform. 2 'Dovetail' **coffee table**, $1900, Rachel Donath. 3 'Marmo Grigio' stone-look **laminate**, POA, Laminex. 4 Foscarini 'Chouchin 1' **suspension lamp**, $1410, Space. 5 'Starla' extension **dining table**, $1299, Harvey Norman.

« sophistication. It's like a charcoal, sponged onto the joinery to expose the grain. Earthy stones are anchored by dark oak."

With sandstone on the fireplace and pillars in the cellar, and limed oak on the floors and ceilings, the home exudes a sense of place, with pops of yellow and blue – favourite colours of the owner – adding playfulness via artworks in the study and entry, while navy finds full expression in the main bedroom. Lauren has echoed Blake's curved ceilings with fluting on the kitchen joinery, behind the main bed and in the main ensuite as a counter to the moody Elba marble that frames the huge Agape bath.

For the furnishings, Lauren again played up the scale, installing a massive seven-metre-long Minotti U-shaped modular sofa in the living area. In the dining room, a monumental 3.4-metre slab of Super White Dolomite with chamfered edges creates a table with gravitas. And again, two large artworks commissioned from Indigenous artist Otis Hope Carey grace the walls in the living room and dining area. "The house is bold, with floor-to-ceiling glass. I knew it could take all these larger items," says Lauren.

Blake has the final word with his take on the staircase. "It's suspended from the roof – not easy to do – and touches the living room below in the lightest manner." But its impact is far from 'lightweight'. In fact, it sets the tone for a home that dazzles at every turn. **b**

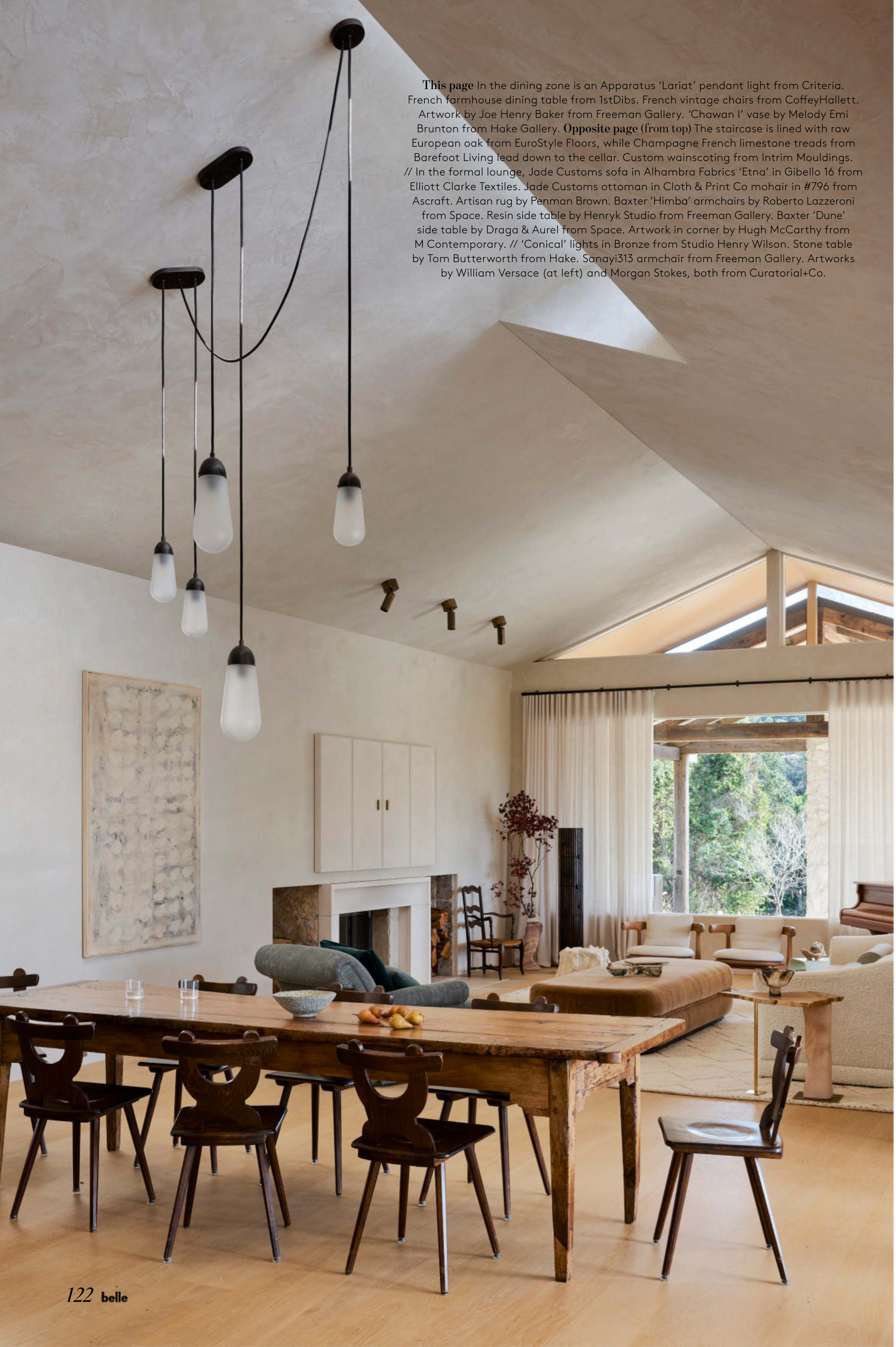
blakeletnic.com; studiotrio.com.au

These pages The informal living area enjoys panoramic views of the landscape. Walls and ceiling in French lime plaster painted Dulux Opononi. Jurassic French limestone floor tiles from Barefoot Living. Curtains in Bruder 'Aty' linen in Natural from Style Revolutionary. Jade Customs sofas in Rose Tarlow 'Bodie' linen in Cactus from Tigger Hall Design. Artisan rug and custom coffee table by Penman Brown. Carl Hansen & Søn 'Easy' chair from Cult. Armchairs in Pierre Frey 'Chenille Igor' in Clematite from Milgate. Antique side tables from Graham Geddes Antiques.

Rustic simplicity meets polished refinement in this country farmhouse, where weekends are a mix of family connection and quiet contemplation.

THE GREAT ESCAPE

Words **STEPHANIE HOPE** Photography **ANSON SMART**

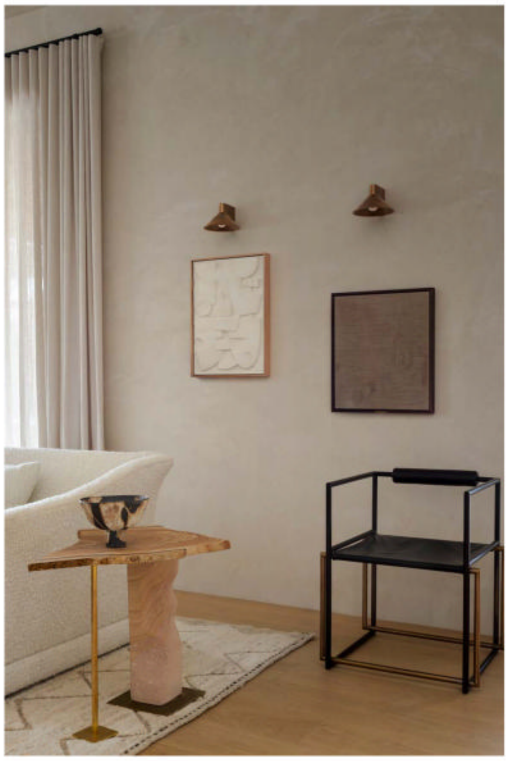


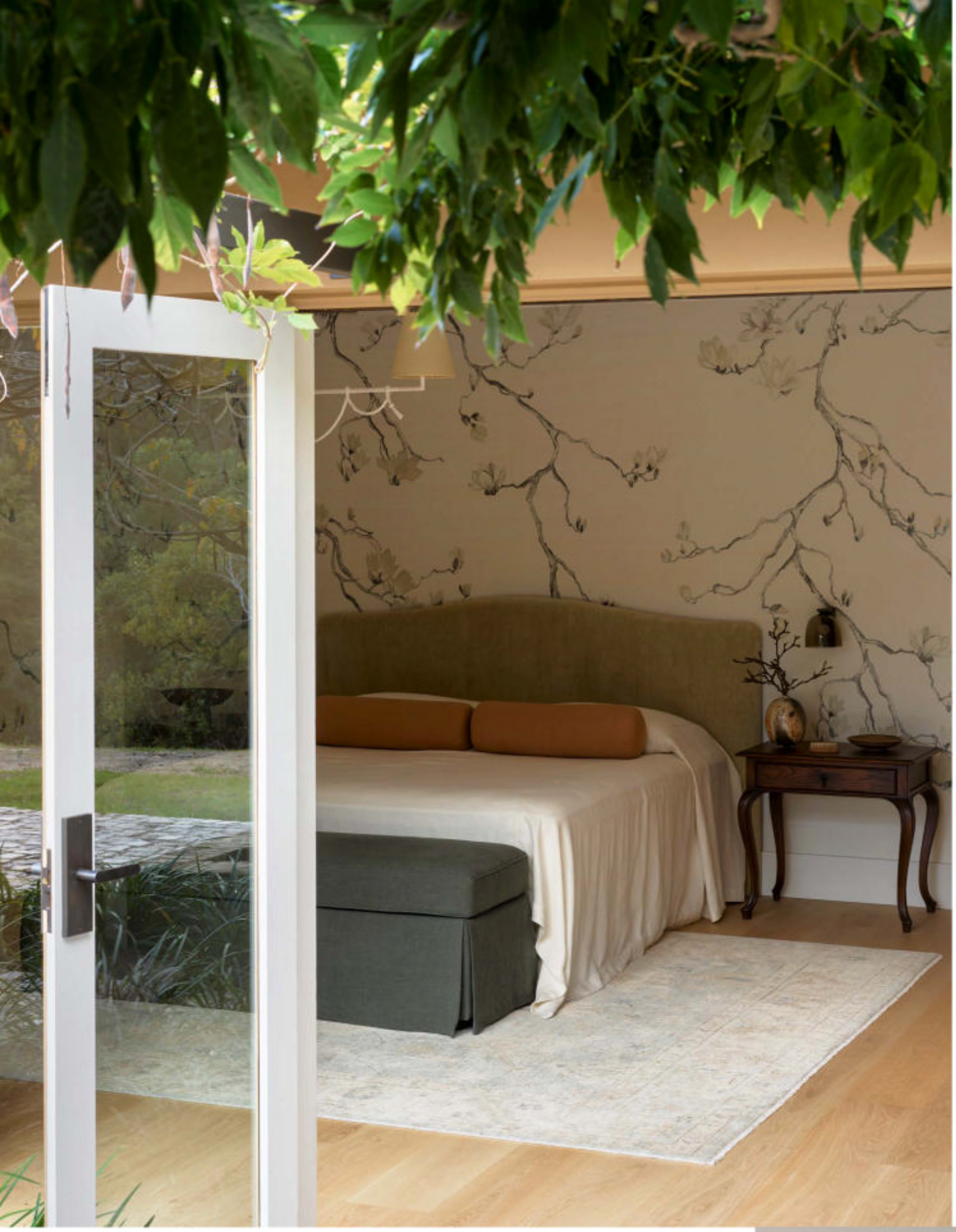
This page In the dining zone is an Apparatus 'Lariat' pendant light from Criteria. French farmhouse dining table from 1stDibs. French vintage chairs from CoffeyHallett. Artwork by Joe Henry Baker from Freeman Gallery. 'Chawan I' vase by Melody Emi Brunton from Hake Gallery. **Opposite page (from top)** The staircase is lined with raw European oak from EuroStyle Floors, while Champagne French limestone treads from Barefoot Living lead down to the cellar. Custom wainscoting from Intrim Mouldings. // In the formal lounge, Jade Customs sofa in Alhambra Fabrics 'Etna' in Gibello 16 from Elliott Clarke Textiles. Jade Customs ottoman in Cloth & Print Co mohair in #796 from Ascraft. Artisan rug by Penman Brown. Baxter 'Himba' armchairs by Roberto Lazzeroni from Space. Resin side table by Henryk Studio from Freeman Gallery. Baxter 'Dune' side table by Draga & Aurel from Space. Artwork in corner by Hugh McCarthy from M Contemporary. // 'Conical' lights in Bronze from Studio Henry Wilson. Stone table by Tom Butterworth from Hake. Sanayi313 armchair from Freeman Gallery. Artworks by William Versace (at left) and Morgan Stokes, both from Curatorial+Co.

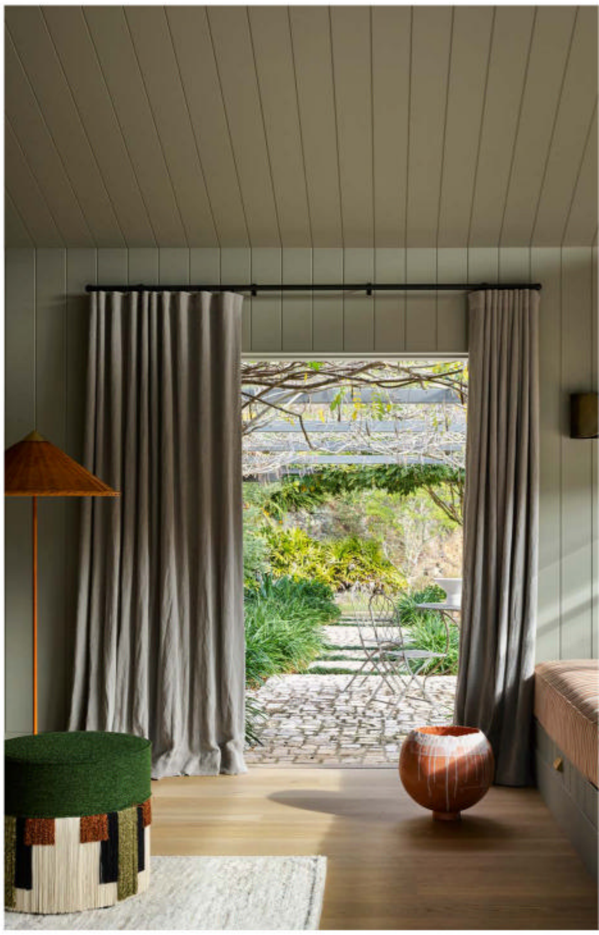
Sitting in an idyllic position bordering Strickland State Forest on the NSW Central Coast, Winden Estate is a sprawling country home belonging to a neurosurgeon and his family. A quick 90-minute drive from Sydney, the 10-hectare property encompasses established orchards, rolling paddocks and leafy bushland, its elevated position giving access to scenic vistas at every turn. And central to it all, a striking farmhouse accommodates the family of six.

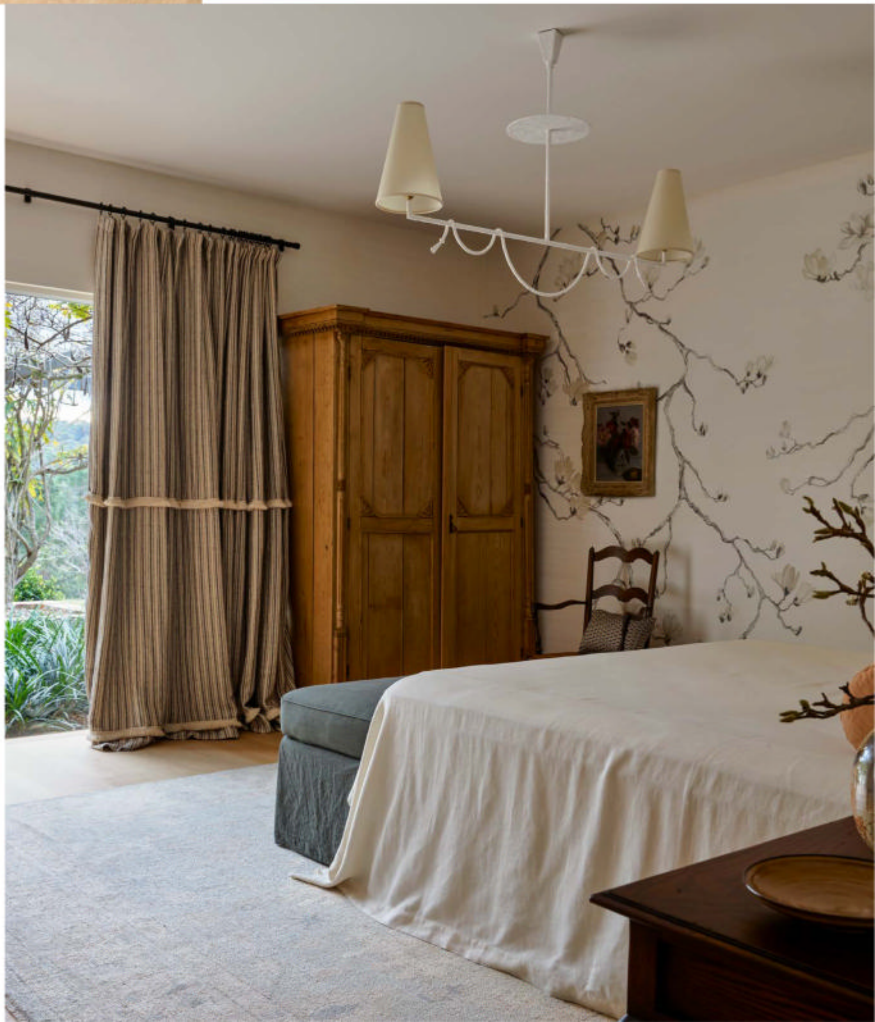
Pre-renovation, the house felt a little lacklustre. The interiors were drab and dated, with stained timber floors, random colour selections and a timber-laminate kitchen right out of the 1980s. Megan Brown of Penman Brown Interior Design was tasked with its transformation, which spanned two years and involved gutting and reimagining the building inside and out. The wish was for multiple living spaces where the family could spend time alone and together, a large kitchen to cater for a crowd, and separate sleeping quarters away from the communal areas. "The owners envisioned a French-inspired 'generational' farmhouse that was intrinsically connected to and reflective of the location's dramatic landscape," says Megan. "By blending traditional French farmhouse style with a minimal modernist aesthetic, we were able to create a home that is robust, refined and detailed."

It all starts at the solid timber front door, made from reclaimed wharf piers, which opens to an expansive entry wrapped in rough »









This page (top left and bottom) In the guest bedroom, Phillip Jeffries 'Blossom' wallpaper in Taupe from The Textile Company. Jade Customs bedhead in Pierre Frey 'Chenille Igor' fabric in Tilleul from Milgate. Bed end in Lizzo 'Royal Flax' fabric in Albert from Westbury Textiles. Artisan rug and custom side table by Penman Brown. 'S+H' pendant from Anna Charlesworth. 'Tubi' wall sconces from Articolo Studios. French vintage wardrobe from 1st Dibs. Curtains in Bruder 'Aty' fabric from Style Revolutionary. Vintage artwork and French farm chair from The Vault Sydney. **Opposite page** (and this page, top right) VJ panels in the media room are painted French Green by Porter's Paints. Joinery in European Oak timber veneer from Briggs Veneers. Tobia Scarpa 'Foglio' sconces from Lumfardo. 'Conical' bronze wall lights from Studio Henry Wilson. Door handles from Designer Hardware. Bench seat cushions and sofa in 'Endless Summer' linen in Tangerine from Boyac. Coffee table from Bib'n Brace. Blue 'Cepe' stool and 'Etno' pouf from Freeman Gallery. Artisan rug by Penman Brown. Curtains in Bruder 'Loule' fabric in Marino from Style Revolutionary. Gubi '9602' floor lamp from Cult. Vessel on floor by Katarina Wells from Curatorial+Co. Artwork by Elefteria Vlavianos from M Contemporary.

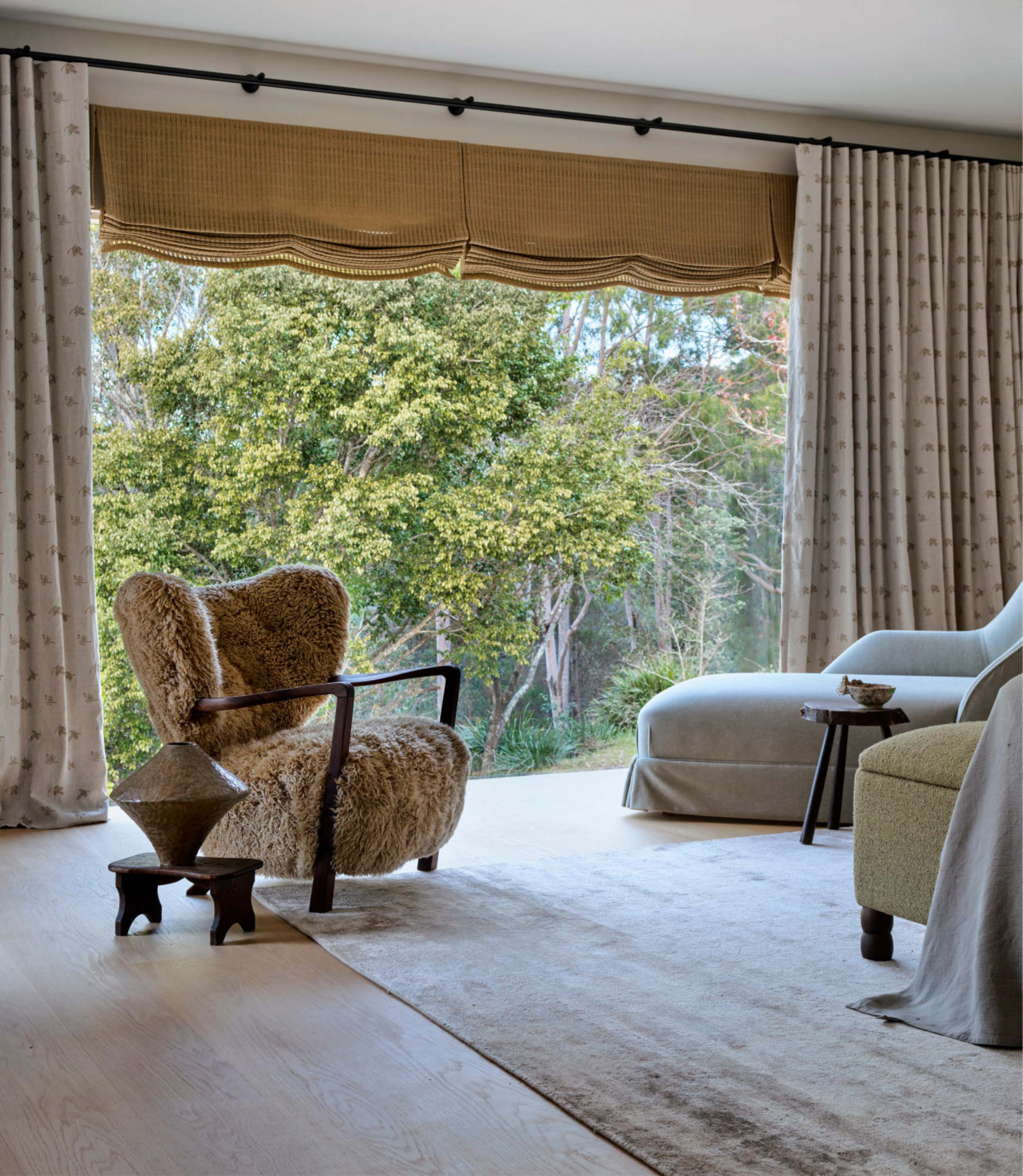
« plastered walls. A pathway of French bricks laid in a herringbone pattern is set within the oak floors, taking the place of a rug and setting the tone for the interior scheme to come. A hallway to the left leads to four bedrooms for the couple's children and guests, each one a restful haven of grasscloth wallpapers, whimsical window furnishings and upholstered bedheads. There's also a media room, bathroom and laundry down this end of the house, making it a self-contained wing with direct access to the landscaped gardens.

Veering off to the right, a study and main-bedroom suite gives the owners their privacy. Custom wainscoting lends traditional classicism while sleek brass wall sconces speak to the present, and a custom chaise is positioned by the window to take in the lush tree canopy. The adjoining ensuite resembles a Roman grotto, with its French limestone walls and floors, veiny marble plinth and 'Lantern' wall sconce.

At the rear, a vast open-plan space houses a generous kitchen and butler's pantry, dining zone, formal lounge and informal living area, with room to spare. Sliding doors open to an alfresco entertaining zone that offers panoramic views of the spectacular valley beyond.

Designed by Provincial Kitchens, the kitchen features the high-quality bespoke joinery that the company is known for, painted a deep, dark green, which varies in shade depending on the time of day. Brass mesh inserts, antique-mirror splashbacks and a dramatic custom stone-clad hearth specified by Penman Brown give a rustic finish. "The earthy tones and natural organic textures reflect the distinctive Australian landscape around us and add so much character," say the owners. "The kitchen is a place to congregate and prepare a meal in, where we bake cookies and juice fresh fruit from the orchard." »

This page (and opposite, bottom) The main bedroom features a Jade Customs bedhead in Designs of the Time 'Baldemar' fabric from James Dunlop Textiles. Bed end in Pierre Frey 'Pyla' fabric from Milgate. 'Leaf' sconces from Daniel Boddam. Custom bedside and Artisan rug by Penman Brown. &Tradition 'Wulff' chair from Cult. Jade Customs chaise in Mokum 'Alpaca' velvet from James Dunlop Textiles. Curtains in Nicola Lawrence Textiles 'Pukka Print' from Elliott Clarke. 'Urban Natural Weave' Roman blinds from Peter Meyer Blinds. Side tables from Graham Geddes Antiques. Ceramic by Katarina Wells from Curatorial+Co. **Opposite page** French Jurassic sandstone wall and floor tiles from Barefoot Living define the ensuite. Plinth in Terrassa Raya marble from CDK Stone. 'Lantern' wall sconce from Apparatus. 'Victoria' bath from DADOquartz. E15 'Backenzahn' stool from Living Edge. Artwork by Indivi Sutton from Saint Cloche.



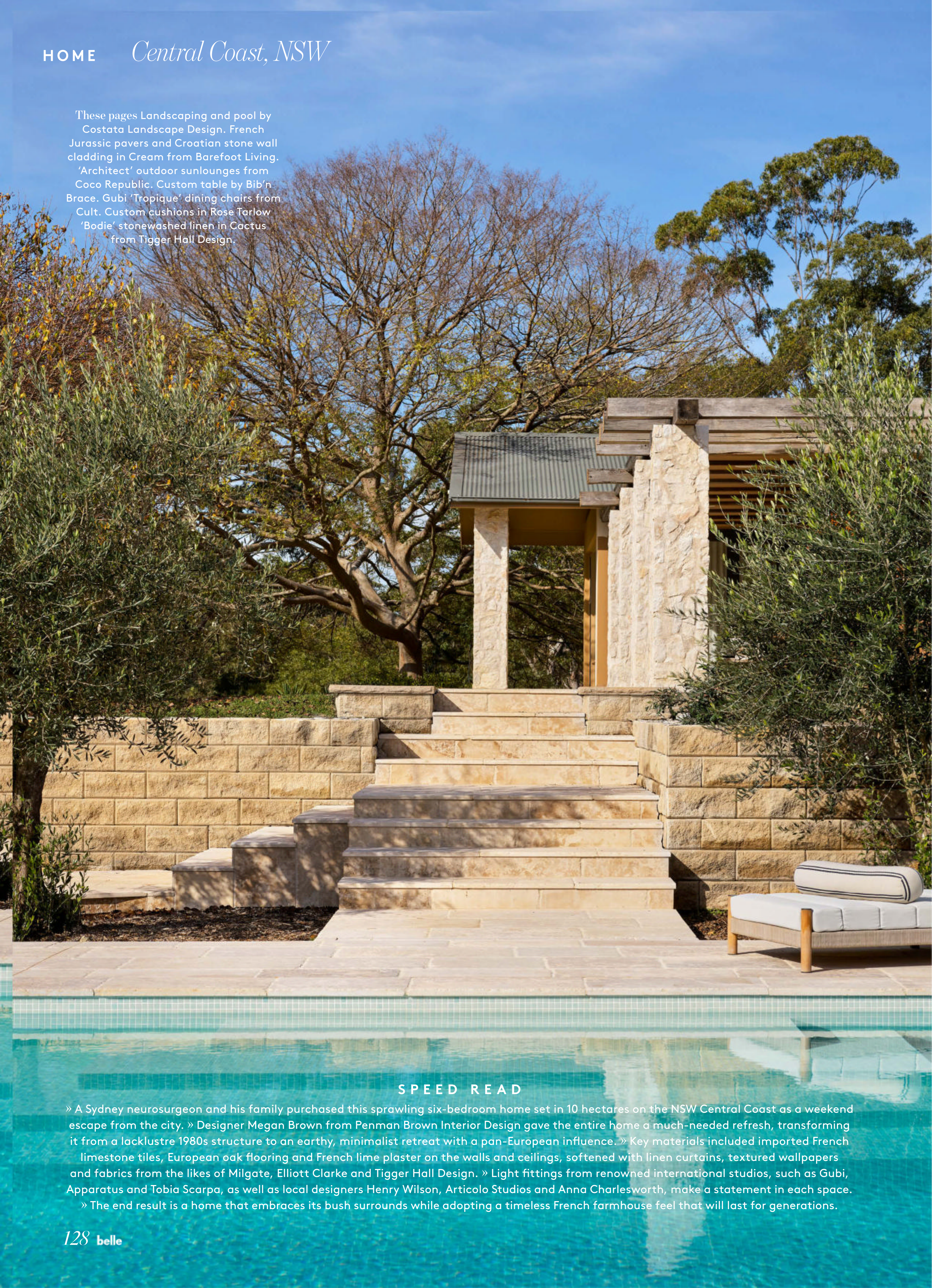
« Penman Brown used colour to dictate the mood in each space. Neutral creams, greys and whites bring tranquillity to the living zones; bold burgundy in the study capitalises on the southern light and adds a moody, atmospheric feel; a soft green in the media room creates a fresh, barn-like vibe; and the kitchen's deep green joinery reflects the surrounding trees. "Every colour and finish had to be derived from the natural environment and feel connected to the earth and [the home's] surrounds," says Megan, "to render the interior a backdrop to the exterior."

Indeed, the biggest success of this project lies in the smallest details: the precise thickness of the wainscoting; the hand-printed floral light shades that almost blend into the hall; the discreet wall cabinet with sliding doors to disguise the TV; and the millimetre-perfect draping of the Apparatus pendant in the dining area – every surface, material and fixture adds up to a layered, authentic scheme that feels as though it's always been there. "Throughout, roughly plastered walls and ceilings imbue emotive depth, complemented by the suppleness of European oak doors, floors and joinery," says Megan. "Velvety imported French limestone and understated marbles – Jurassic in size and nature – exaggerate volume, manipulate scale and 'float' finer details. Patinaed bronze, emotive wallpapers and reclaimed French tiles soften spaces. Contemporary modernist light fittings add elegance and a refined classicism. The result is transportive… inviting guests to immerse themselves in the beauty of the landscape."

And the family agree wholeheartedly. "Being here brings us immense peace and serenity," says the owner. "My head and my heart have a sense of calm which I haven't felt for decades."

penmanbrown.com; @penmanbrown

STYLING: CLAIRE DELMAR (ENSUITE)



These pages Landscaping and pool by Costata Landscape Design. French Jurassic pavers and Croatian stone wall cladding in Cream from Barefoot Living. 'Architect' outdoor sunlounges from Coco Republic. Custom table by Bib'n Brace. Gubi 'Tropique' dining chairs from Cult. Custom cushions in Rose Tarlow 'Bodie' stonewashed linen in Cactus from Tigger Hall Design.

SPEED READ

» A Sydney neurosurgeon and his family purchased this sprawling six-bedroom home set in 10 hectares on the NSW Central Coast as a weekend escape from the city. » Designer Megan Brown from Penman Brown Interior Design gave the entire home a much-needed refresh, transforming it from a lacklustre 1980s structure to an earthy, minimalist retreat with a pan-European influence. » Key materials included imported French limestone tiles, European oak flooring and French lime plaster on the walls and ceilings, softened with linen curtains, textured wallpapers and fabrics from the likes of Milgate, Elliott Clarke and Tigger Hall Design. » Light fittings from renowned international studios, such as Gubi, Apparatus and Tobia Scarpa, as well as local designers Henry Wilson, Articolo Studios and Anna Charlesworth, make a statement in each space. » The end result is a home that embraces its bush surrounds while adopting a timeless French farmhouse feel that will last for generations.

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SIGNATURE STYLE

KEY PIECES

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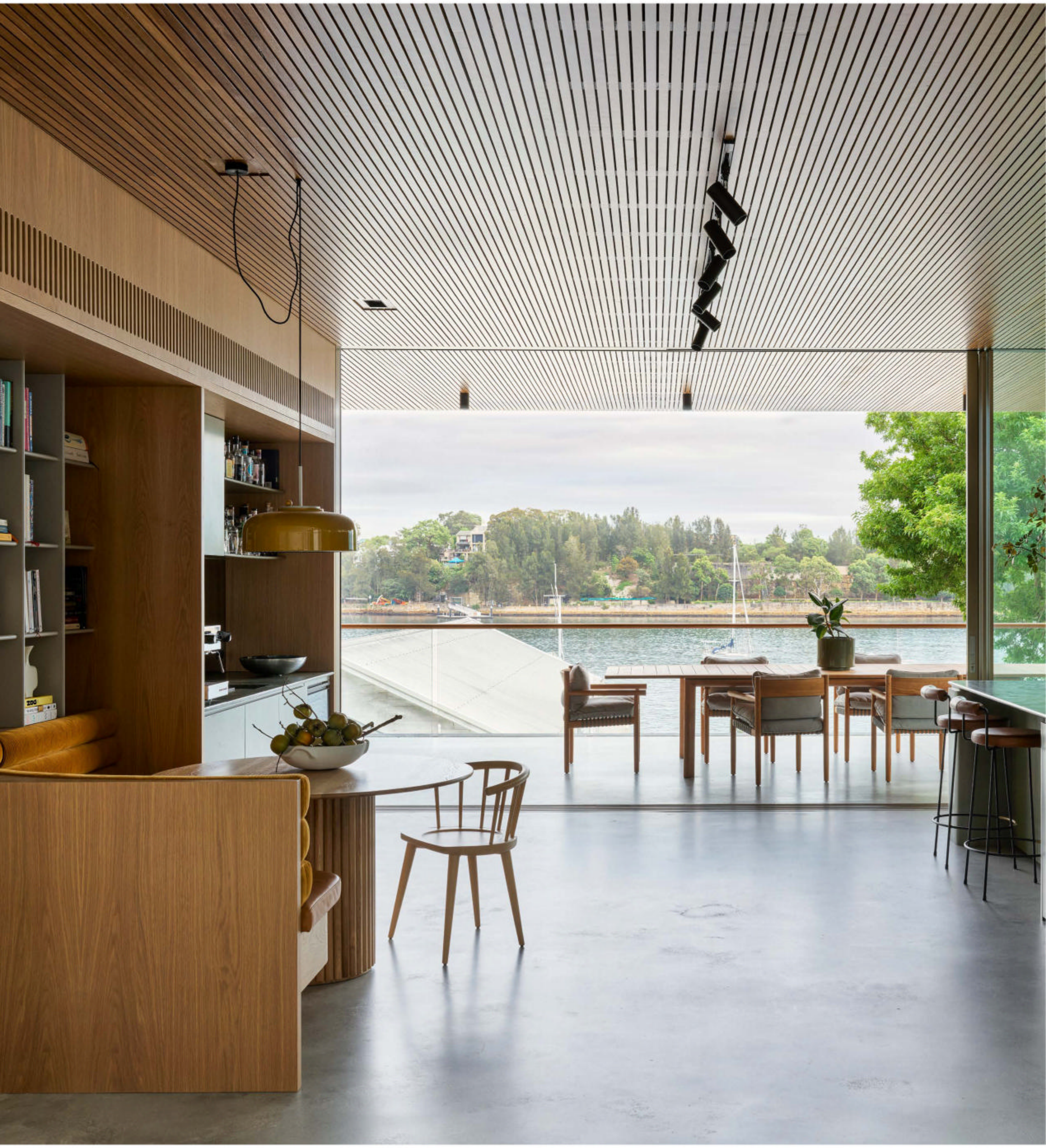
1 Aerin 'Brenta' large double articulating **sconce**, $3290, The Montauk Lighting Co. 2 Eadie Lifestyle 'Luca' linen **cushion** in Natural, $109, Domayne. 3 'Sea Spray' sandy raku **vessel** by Katarina Wells, $950, Curatorial+Co. 4 'Alba' **dining chair** in Sand/Oak, $3100, Tigmi Trading. 5 'Skyler' round outdoor **dining table**, $1799, Harvey Norman.

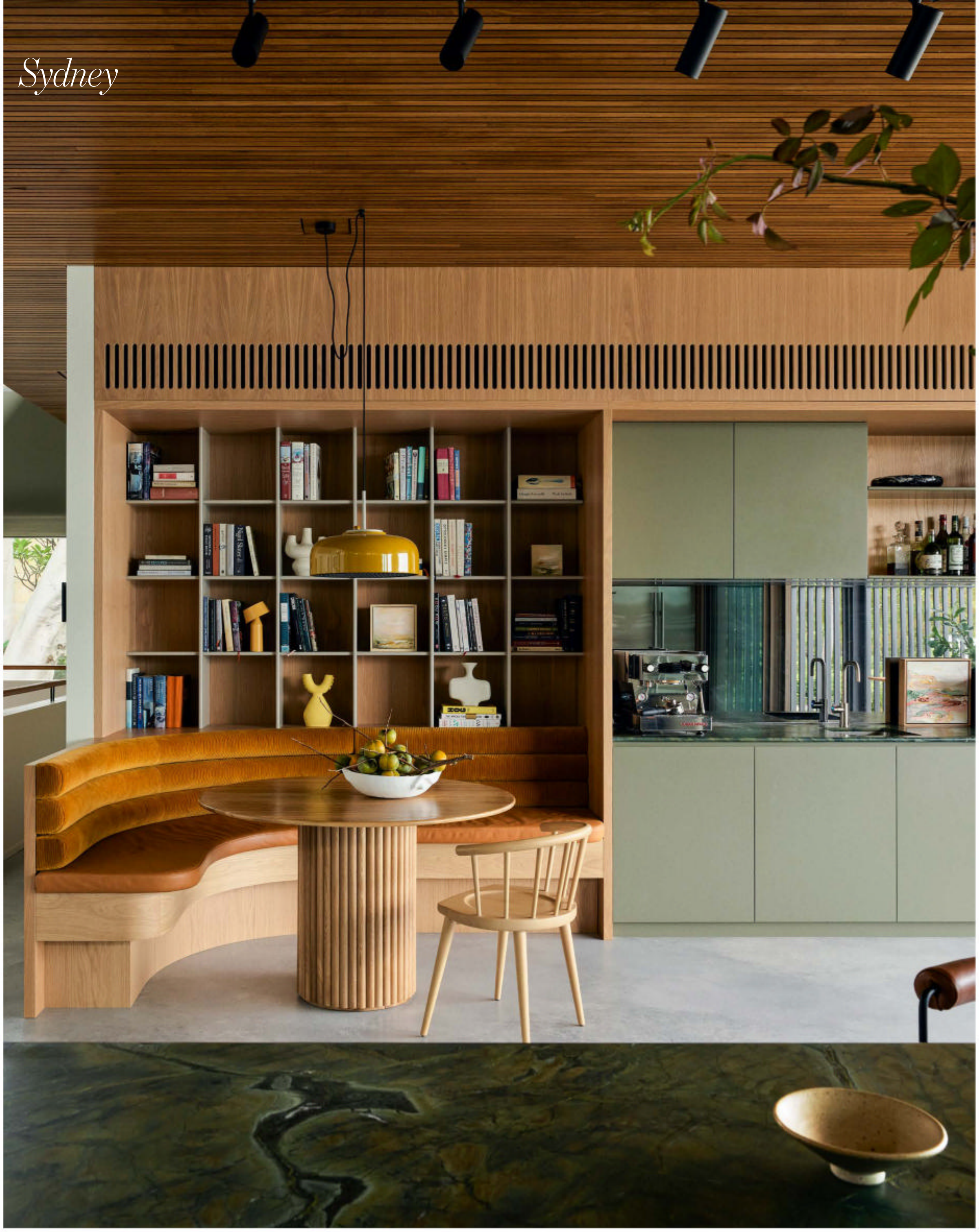


This page Kett 'Addis' teak dining table and Dedon 'Tibbo' outdoor dining chairs from Cosh Living. **Opposite page** 'Butter' seat and stool from DesignByThem. 'Osmo' white chair from Stylecraft. Exterior stairs painted Dulux Red Ochre. Toulon limestone crazy paving on patio from Surface Gallery.

SAFE HARBOUR

Nature and the built environment became one in the capable hands of an award-winning architect.

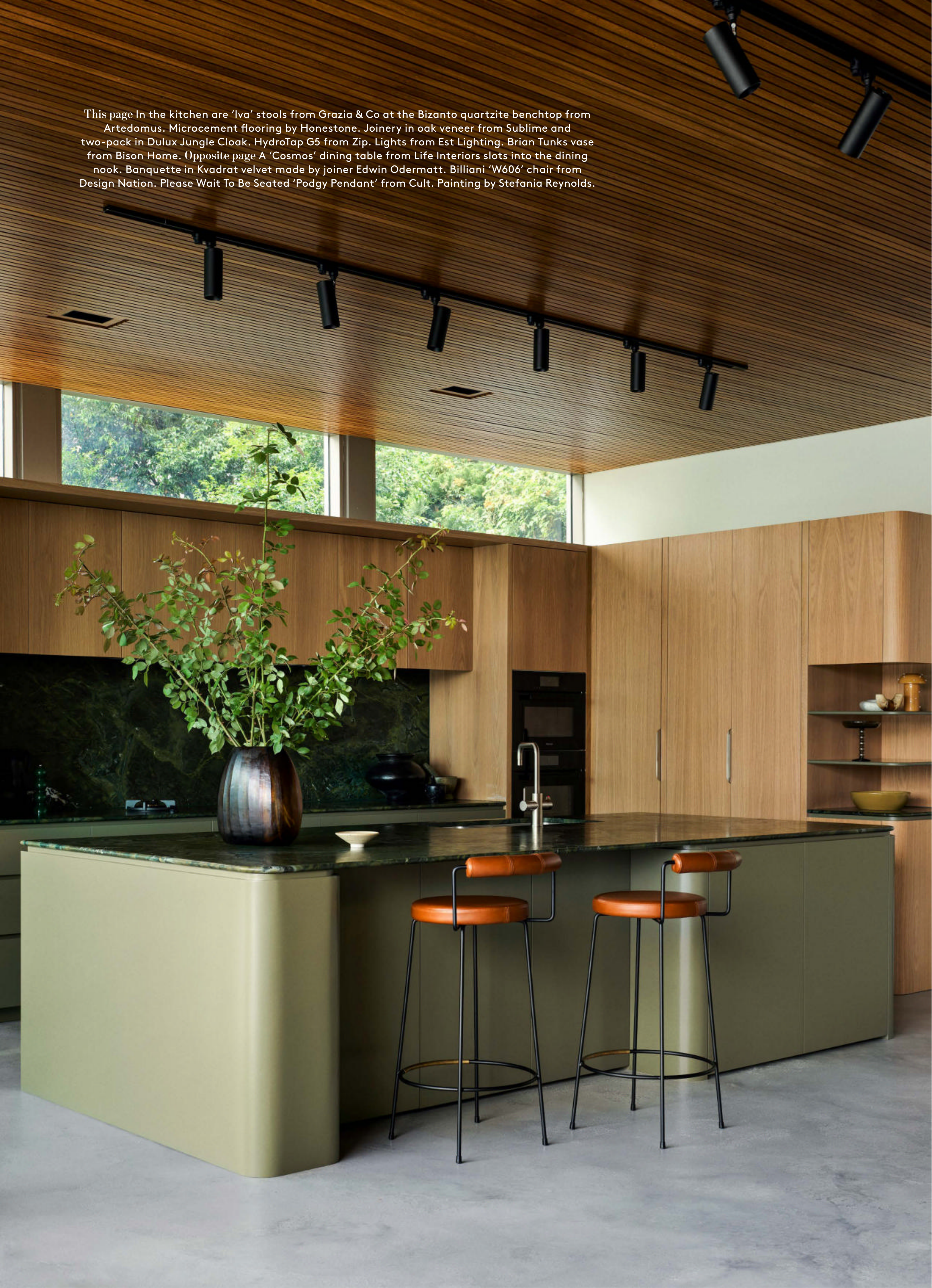
Words **CHRIS PEARSON** Photography **ANSON SMART**
Styling **KIRSTEN BOOKALLIL**



With its earthy hues and tactile materials framing bush and water views, this home in Sydney's inner west takes biophilic design and its embrace of the natural world to an alluring new level. Such is the symbiosis that indoors and out meld into one.

The tree-fringed bay beyond, so close you can hear the swish of passing boats and lanyards butting the masts, is reflected in its remodelled interiors. "This location was 'Oh my gosh'. It was so near to the water, it seemed to have its own waterfront," says Stefania Reynolds of architects Studio Johnson, smitten when she set eyes on the property in 2021. But if those were the pros, the cons were glaringly apparent. About 20 years old, the house sported features of the era – clinical whites, lashings of steel and a surfeit of sharp angles, in stark contrast to the spectacle beyond. "It was cold and industrial, with kitschy pops of colour. It needed to be warmed up," she says. The views were also hindered by chunky window frames.

"I wanted to soften the house and add some character by bringing in a few curves and interesting materials," says the owner. "I had two must-haves: polished-concrete floors and a timber ceiling flowing from inside to out." The passionate cook also requested a generous bells-and-whistles kitchen steeped in those water views. »



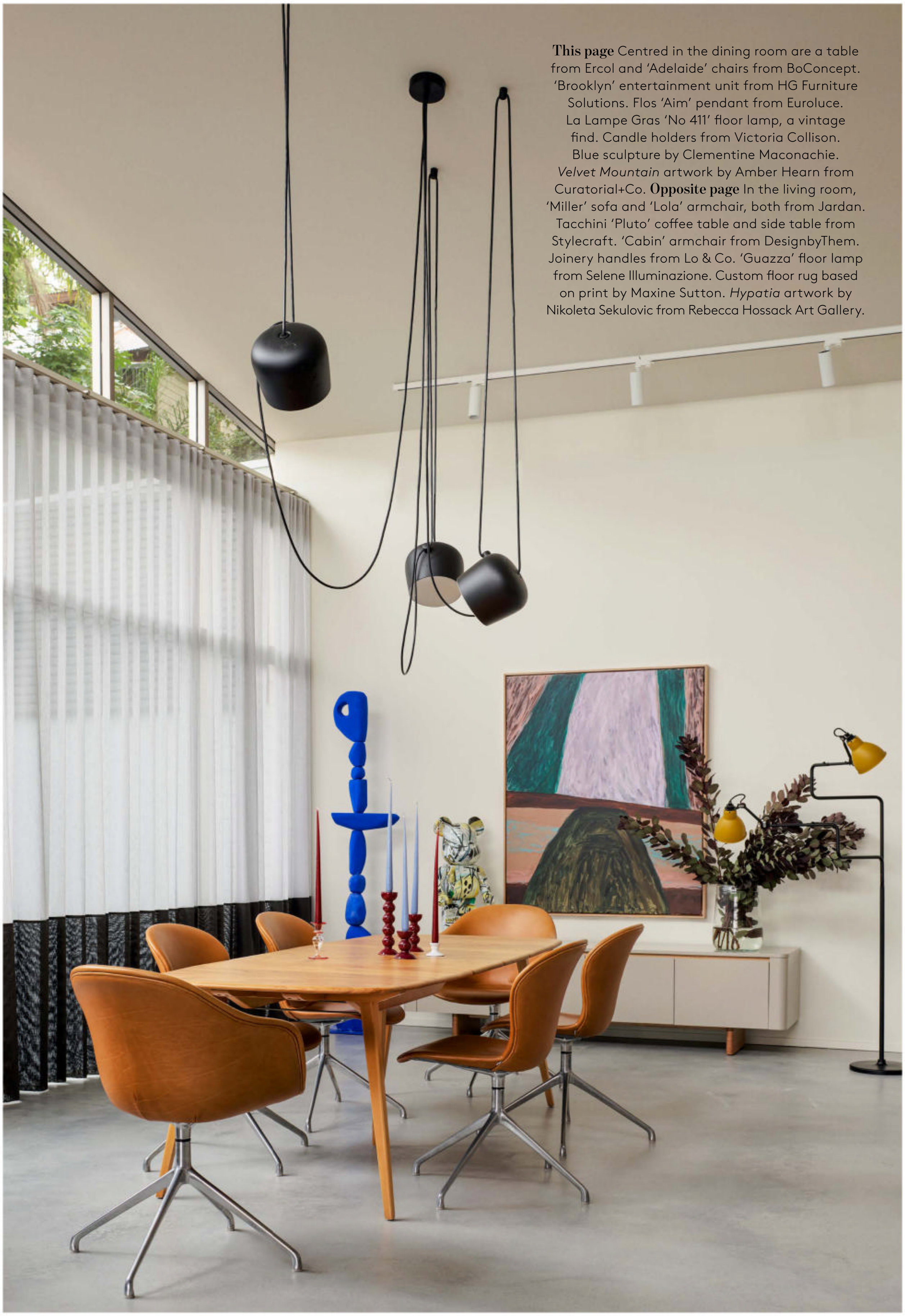
This page In the kitchen are 'Iva' stools from Grazia & Co at the Bizanto quartzite benchtop from Artedomus. Microcement flooring by Honestone. Joinery in oak veneer from Sublime and two-pack in Dulux Jungle Cloak. HydroTap G5 from Zip. Lights from Est Lighting. Brian Tunks vase from Bison Home. **Opposite page** A 'Cosmos' dining table from Life Interiors slots into the dining nook. Banquette in Kvadrat velvet made by joiner Edwin Odermatt. Billiani 'W606' chair from Design Nation. Please Wait To Be Seated 'Podgy Pendant' from Cult. Painting by Stefania Reynolds.

« First up, Stefania suggested that the owner live in it for 12 months to determine how she, her partner and now six-year-old son would use it throughout the year and chart how the light fluctuates with the seasons. She then broadly retained the existing layout, eschewing the need to shift plumbing, with the open-plan living areas and the main bedroom suite on the first floor, while two other bedrooms, a study and a gym occupy the ground floor, together with a second living area abutting a generous patio complete with pizza oven.

While keeping the shell, Stefania stripped the walls, floors and ceilings. On the top floor, she 'infilled' a void down to the lower level to avoid the disjointed feel it created. New slimline windows now optimise the view beyond. Walls of oak-veneer joinery lend character and warmth, and a semi-circular banquette provides a focal point in the open plan. Meanwhile, the super-sized kitchen, created by dispensing with a butler's pantry, boasts a deep island for maximum storage and a perch for informal meals.

Materiality is what sets the home apart, says Stefania, softening it and making it family-friendly. While the owner's request for timber ceilings was resolved relatively easily with tallowwood battens inside and out, the existing 'hybrid' of concrete and timber floors put paid to concrete throughout, so the only option was microcement. "It's a mere 3mm thick, but who would know it?" says Stefania. "Microcement can be applied to just about any surface, and it looks exactly like polished concrete." Reflecting the material's versatility, the designer also used it for the walls in the main ensuite.

"In addition, we retained some existing elements to pay homage to the original era," she says. "While the high ceilings did not help when it came to the views, we played them up and turned them into a wow factor." Stefania added curves to the original bulkheads and painted them an olive tone. Curves are reprised throughout, again in muted ways, in joinery, a bathroom ceiling, and the bullnose edging on the balustrades. »



This page Centred in the dining room are a table from Ercol and 'Adelaide' chairs from BoConcept. 'Brooklyn' entertainment unit from HG Furniture Solutions. Flos 'Aim' pendant from Euroluce. La Lampe Gras 'No 411' floor lamp, a vintage find. Candle holders from Victoria Collison. Blue sculpture by Clementine Maconachie. *Velvet Mountain* artwork by Amber Hearn from Curatorial+Co. **Opposite page** In the living room, 'Miller' sofa and 'Lola' armchair, both from Jardan. Tacchini 'Pluto' coffee table and side table from Stylecraft. 'Cabin' armchair from DesignbyThem. Joinery handles from Lo & Co. 'Guazza' floor lamp from Selene Illuminazione. Custom floor rug based on print by Maxine Sutton. *Hypatia* artwork by Nikoleta Sekulovic from Rebecca Hossack Art Gallery.

« "The home was angular and sharp before, so these subtle interventions have made a big difference," she says.

Again stressing the organic, the owner says she wanted the palette to reflect the world beyond the walls of glazing. "I wanted it to harmonise with what I am seeing outside – earthy colours and greens, which I especially love, because I find them soothing and calming."

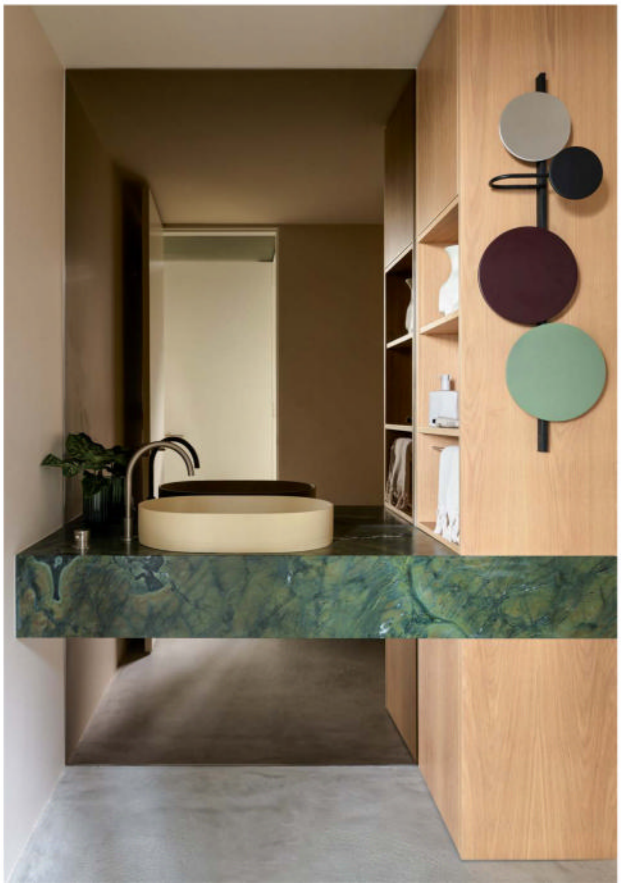
Strikingly, the kitchen island sports an olive green fascia with a benchtop featuring fabulous swirls of jade-green quartzite, which Stefania likens to oil droplets on water. She used contrasting ochre accents on the banquette, light fittings, fireplace tiles and a spiral staircase that winds up the facade, creating a sculptural focal point. The son's bathroom has 'punchy' blue gloss tiles, while the upstairs bathroom celebrates the owner's favourite colour, green. Both are teamed with terrazzo, which was also on her wishlist. "The owner got really playful," says Stefania, "and we gladly went along for the ride."

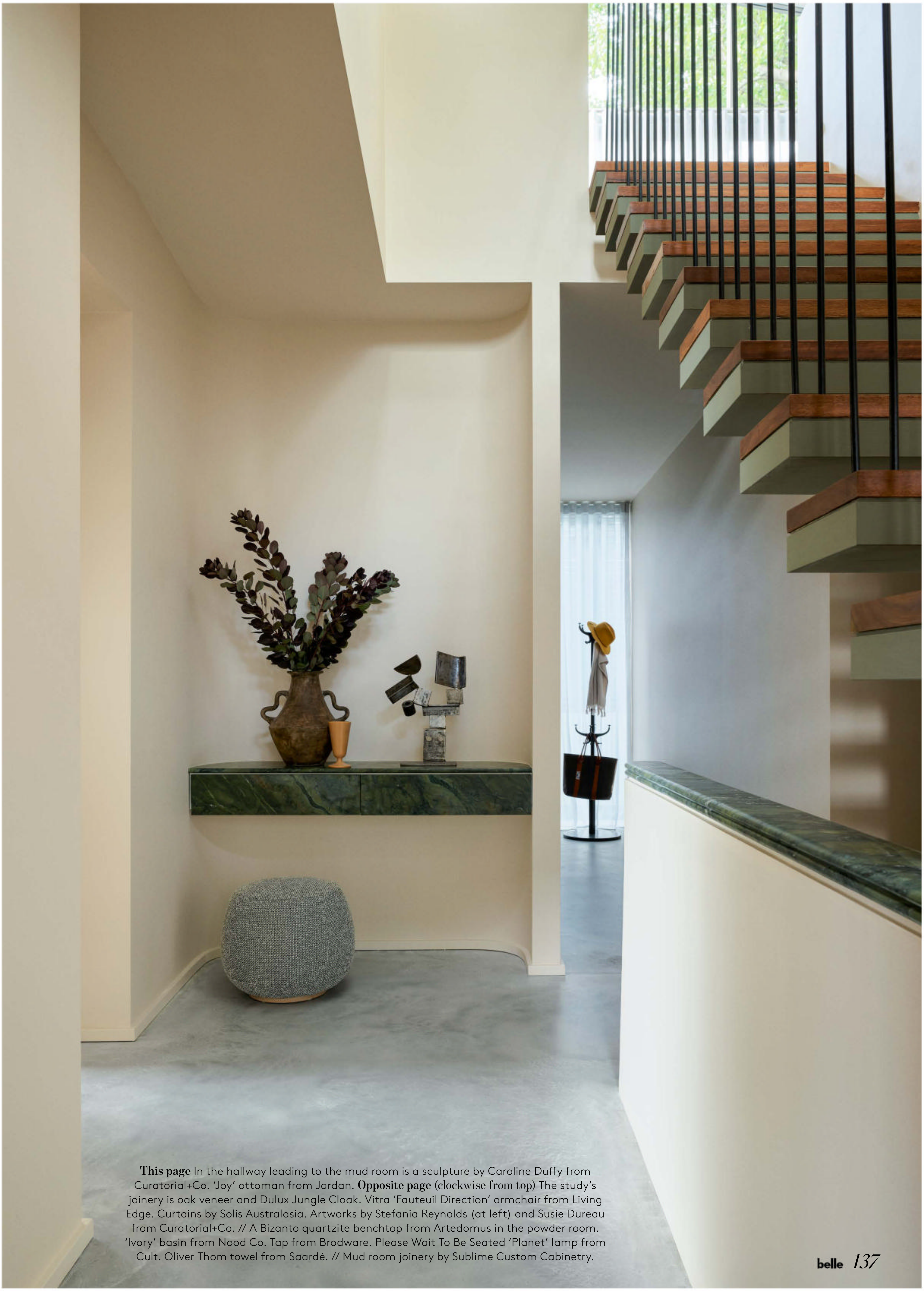
Meanwhile, the furnishings, mostly Australian-sourced and boasting similar colours and curves, together with tactile materials such as velvets, bouclés and linens – "nothing over the top", says Stefania – complement the view and never upstage it.

"My favourite feature is the banquette," adds the owner. "It's absolutely brilliant and we dine there as a family every night. And the downstairs terrace, once underutilised, is a comfortable space, plus the pizza oven gets a lot of use; I recently used it to cook for about 20 people!"

Stefania has her own take on the incredible result. "I love the materials, the colours, the cosy nooks and the floor-to-ceiling glazing taking in that fabulous view. I hope we did this home justice."

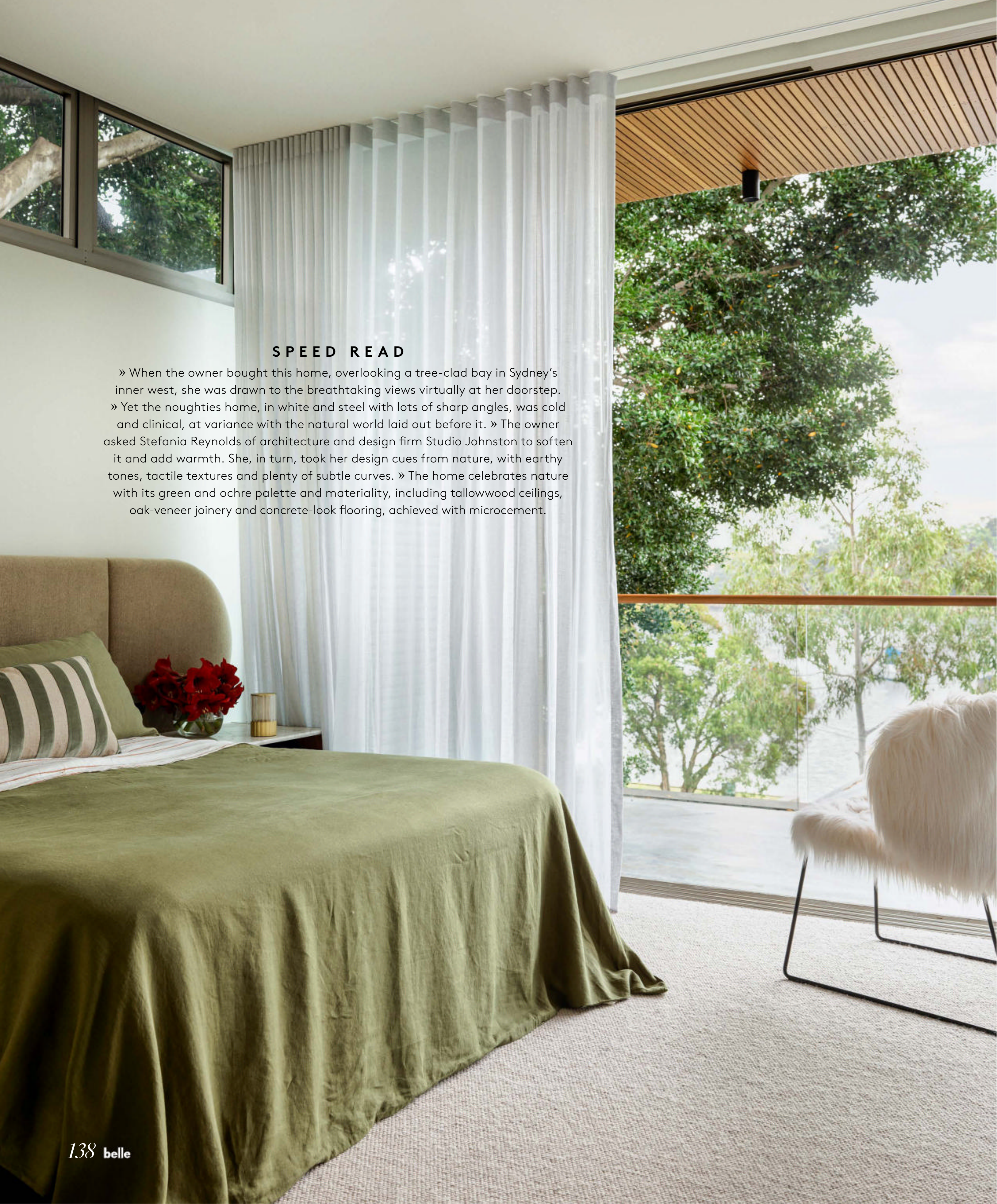
studiojohnston.com.au; sqprojects.com.au





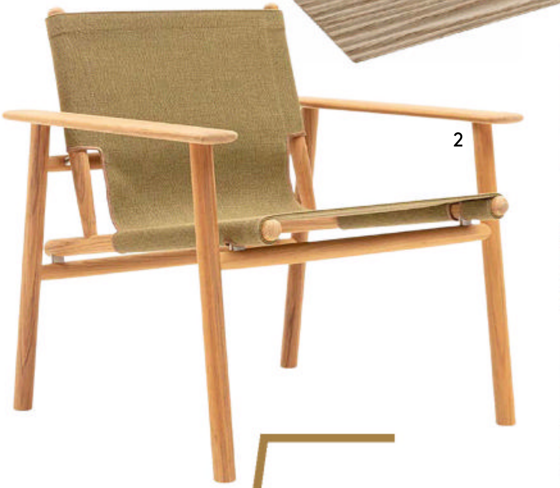
This page In the hallway leading to the mud room is a sculpture by Caroline Duffy from Curatorial+Co. 'Joy' ottoman from Jardan. **Opposite page (clockwise from top)** The study's joinery is oak veneer and Dulux Jungle Cloak. Vitra 'Fauteuil Direction' armchair from Living Edge. Curtains by Solis Australasia. Artworks by Stefania Reynolds (at left) and Susie Dureau from Curatorial+Co. // A Bizanto quartzite benchtop from Artedomus in the powder room. 'Ivory' basin from Nood Co. Tap from Brodware. Please Wait To Be Seated 'Planet' lamp from Cult. Oliver Thom towel from Saardé. // Mud room joinery by Sublime Custom Cabinetry.

This page The colours of the Cultiver linen and custom bedhead from Zenn Design reflect the home's location. Ceiling fan from Big Ass Fans. Curtains by Solis Australasia. Faux-shag sled chair from Design Nation. Voltra 'Totem Collection' lamp from Est Lighting. **Opposite page** An oval 'Duo' bathtub from Kaldewei takes in the view from the main ensuite. 'Ivory' concrete basin from Nood Co. 'Yokato' brushed-nickel tapware from Brodware. 'Kilter' wall light in White from Euroluce. Microcement flooring by Honestone. Oliver Thom wooden stool, towel, brush and soap dish, all from Saardé.



SPEED READ

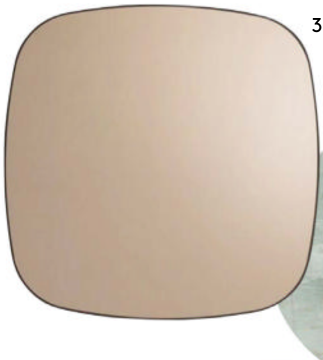
» When the owner bought this home, overlooking a tree-clad bay in Sydney's inner west, she was drawn to the breathtaking views virtually at her doorstep. » Yet the noughties home, in white and steel with lots of sharp angles, was cold and clinical, at variance with the natural world laid out before it. » The owner asked Stefania Reynolds of architecture and design firm Studio Johnston to soften it and add warmth. She, in turn, took her design cues from nature, with earthy tones, tactile textures and plenty of subtle curves. » The home celebrates nature with its green and ochre palette and materiality, including tallowwood ceilings, oak-veneer joinery and concrete-look flooring, achieved with microcement.

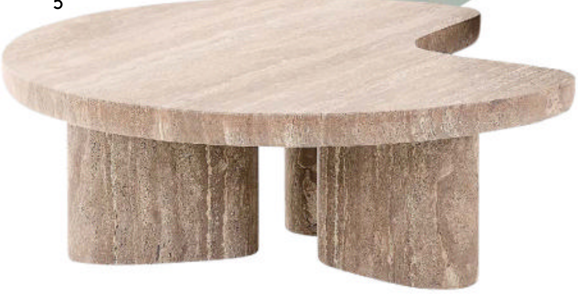


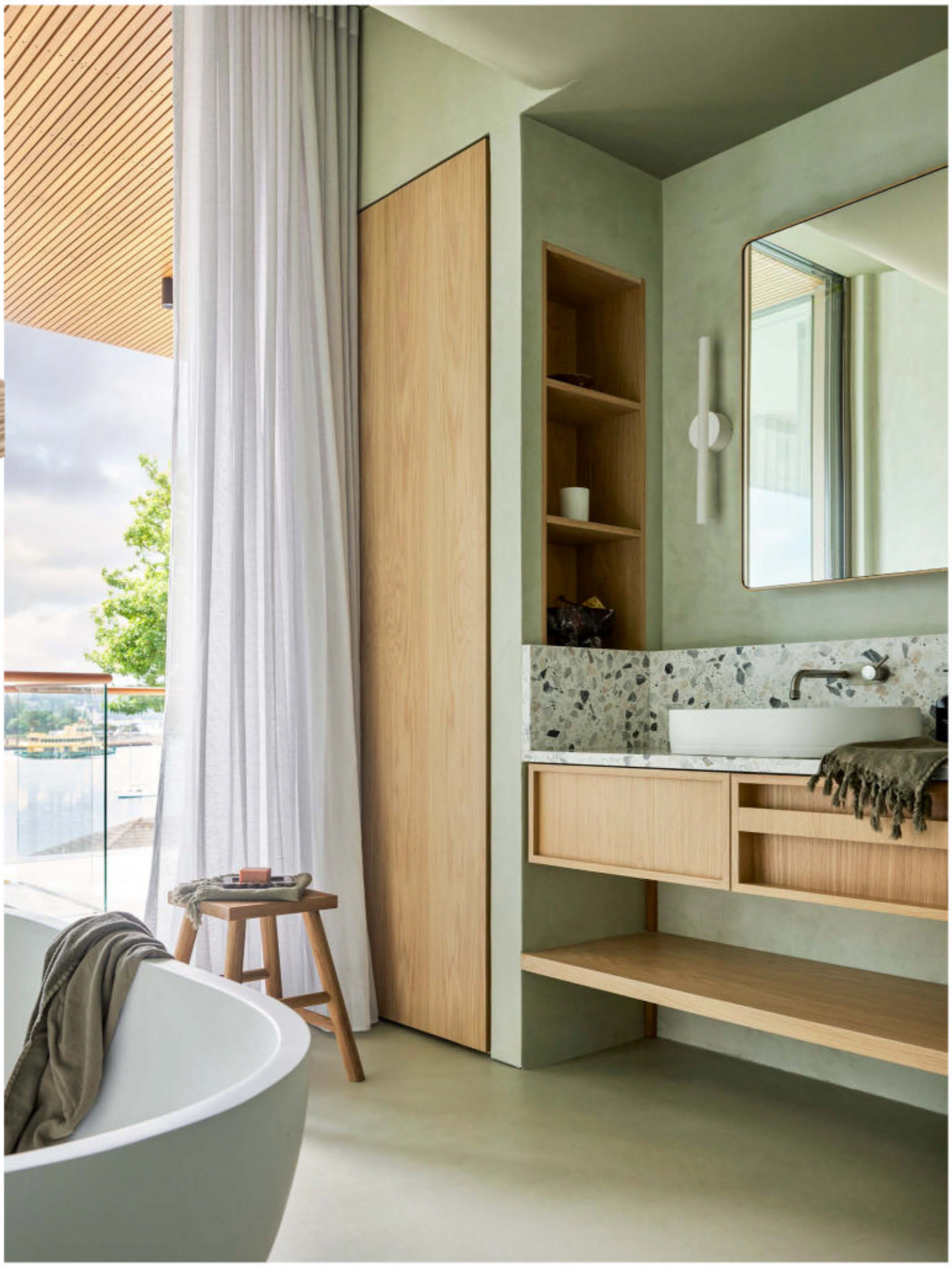
SIGNATURE STYLE

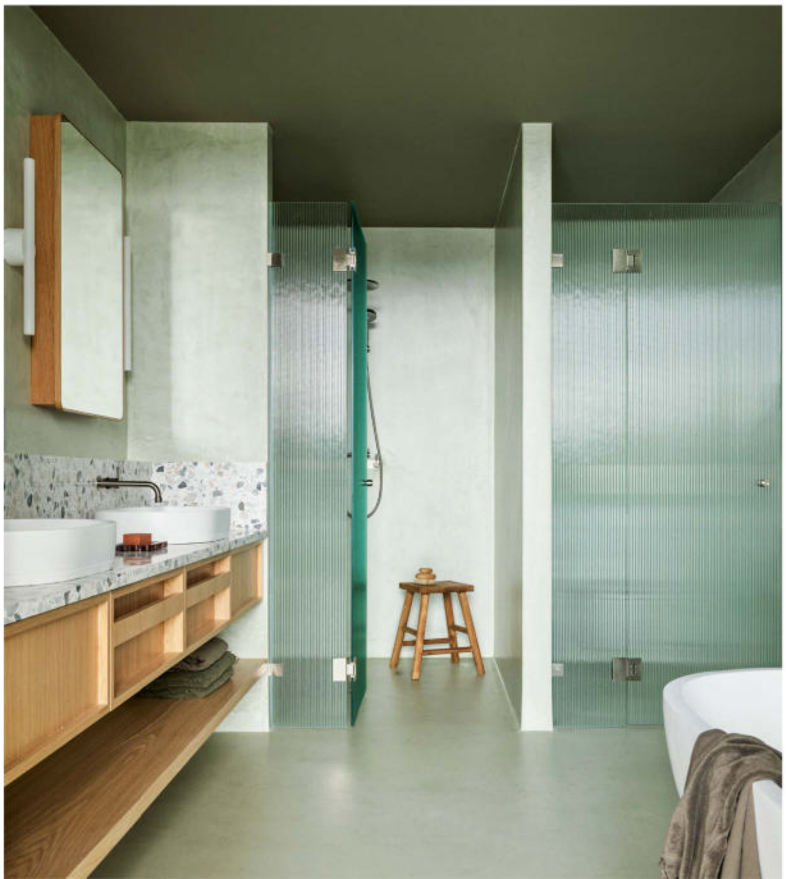
5 KEY PIECES

1 ‘Move F’ **veneer** in Natural American Oak, POA, Cabinetti Panels. 2 B&B Italia ‘Cordoba’ **outdoor armchair** in Cat Lusso/Natural Teakwood/Stainless Steel, $4790, Space. 3 ‘Audrey’ **mirror** in Bronze with Black Elm frame, $4990, Poliform Australia. 4 ‘Esmeralda/Emerald’ **quartzite**, POA, Signorino. 5 ‘Ernest’ **coffee table** in Travertino, POA, Poliform Australia.







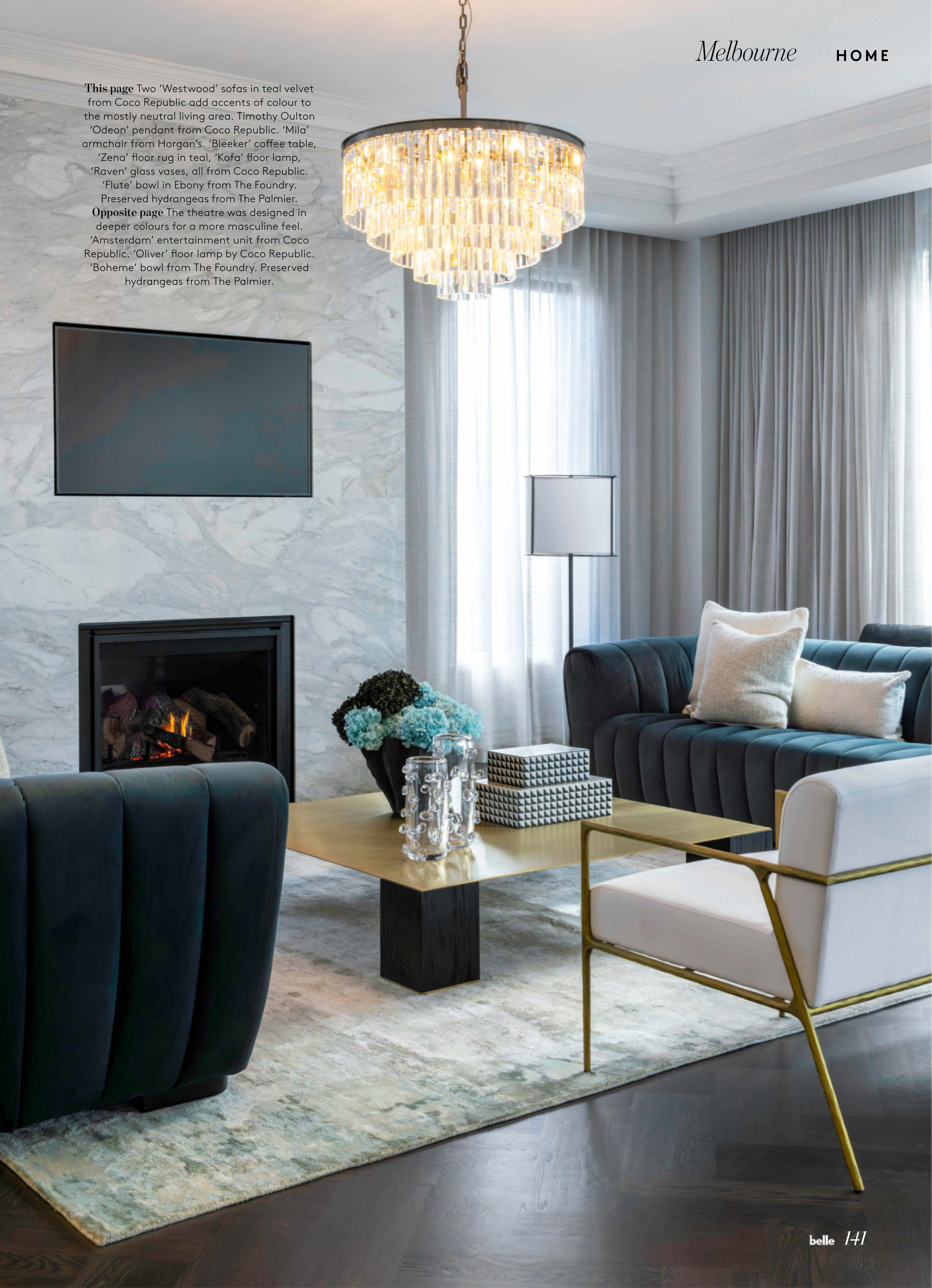


IN THE SPOTLIGHT

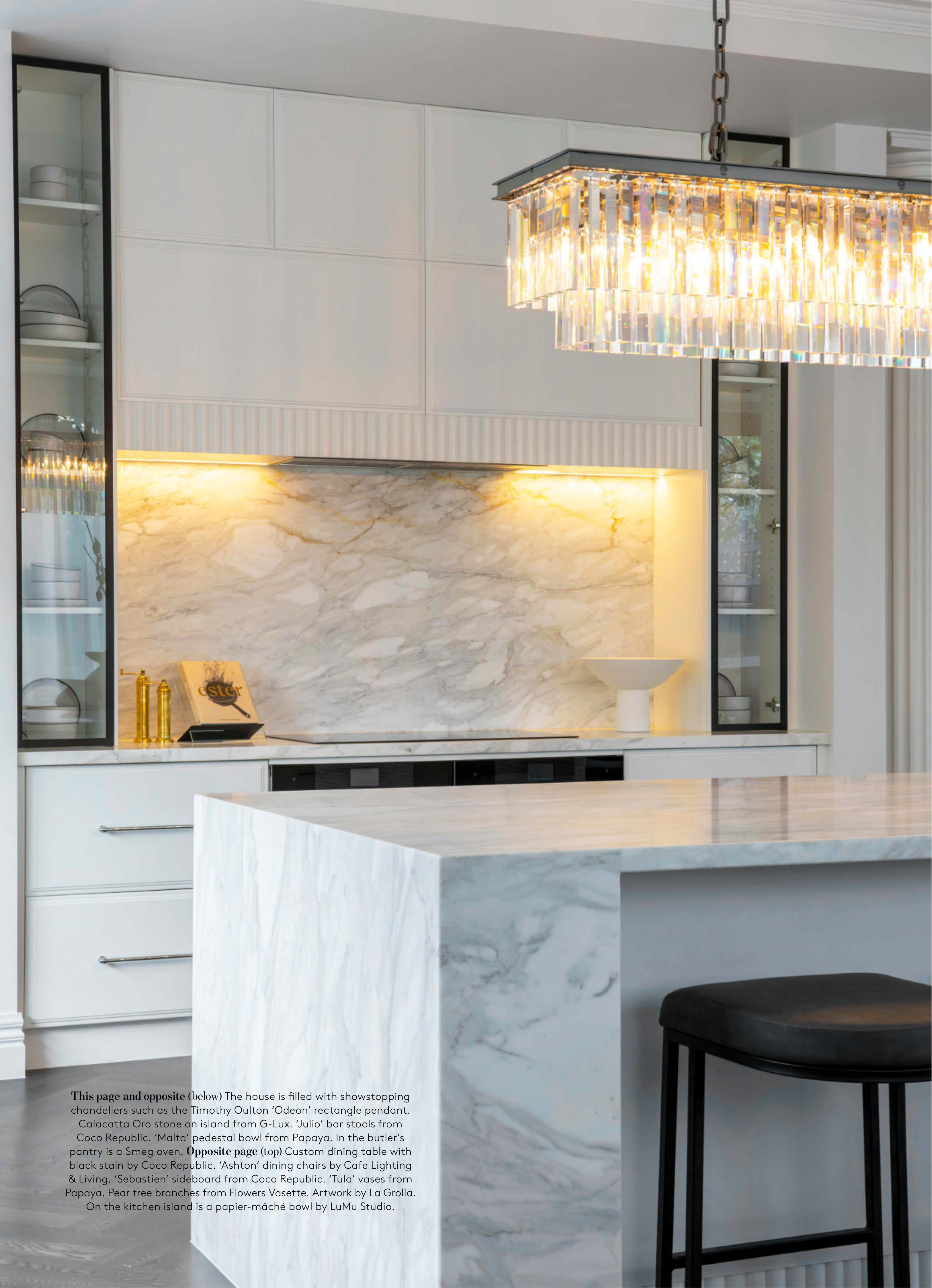
Words **CARLI PHILIPS** Photography **SAMANTHA HONISS** Styling **COCO REPUBLIC**

Glimmers of glassy gold light up the layers of luxury in this sumptuous home.

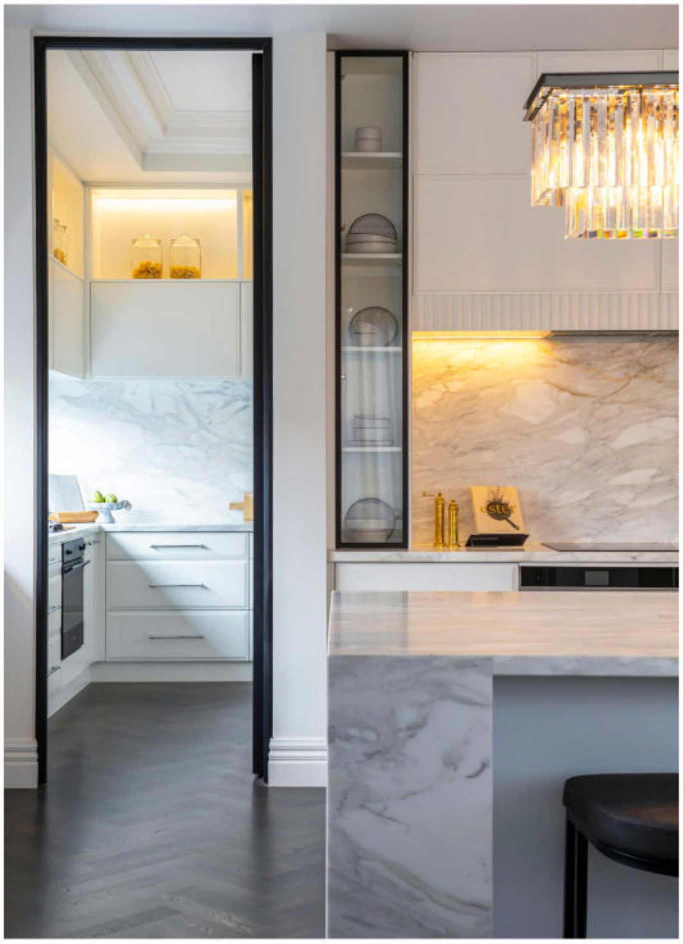
TOM FORD 002



This page Two 'Westwood' sofas in teal velvet from Coco Republic add accents of colour to the mostly neutral living area. Timothy Oulton 'Odeon' pendant from Coco Republic. 'Mila' armchair from Horgan's. 'Bleeker' coffee table, 'Zena' floor rug in teal, 'Kofa' floor lamp, 'Raven' glass vases, all from Coco Republic. 'Flute' bowl in Ebony from The Foundry. Preserved hydrangeas from The Palmier. **Opposite page** The theatre was designed in deeper colours for a more masculine feel. 'Amsterdam' entertainment unit from Coco Republic. 'Oliver' floor lamp by Coco Republic. 'Boheme' bowl from The Foundry. Preserved hydrangeas from The Palmier.



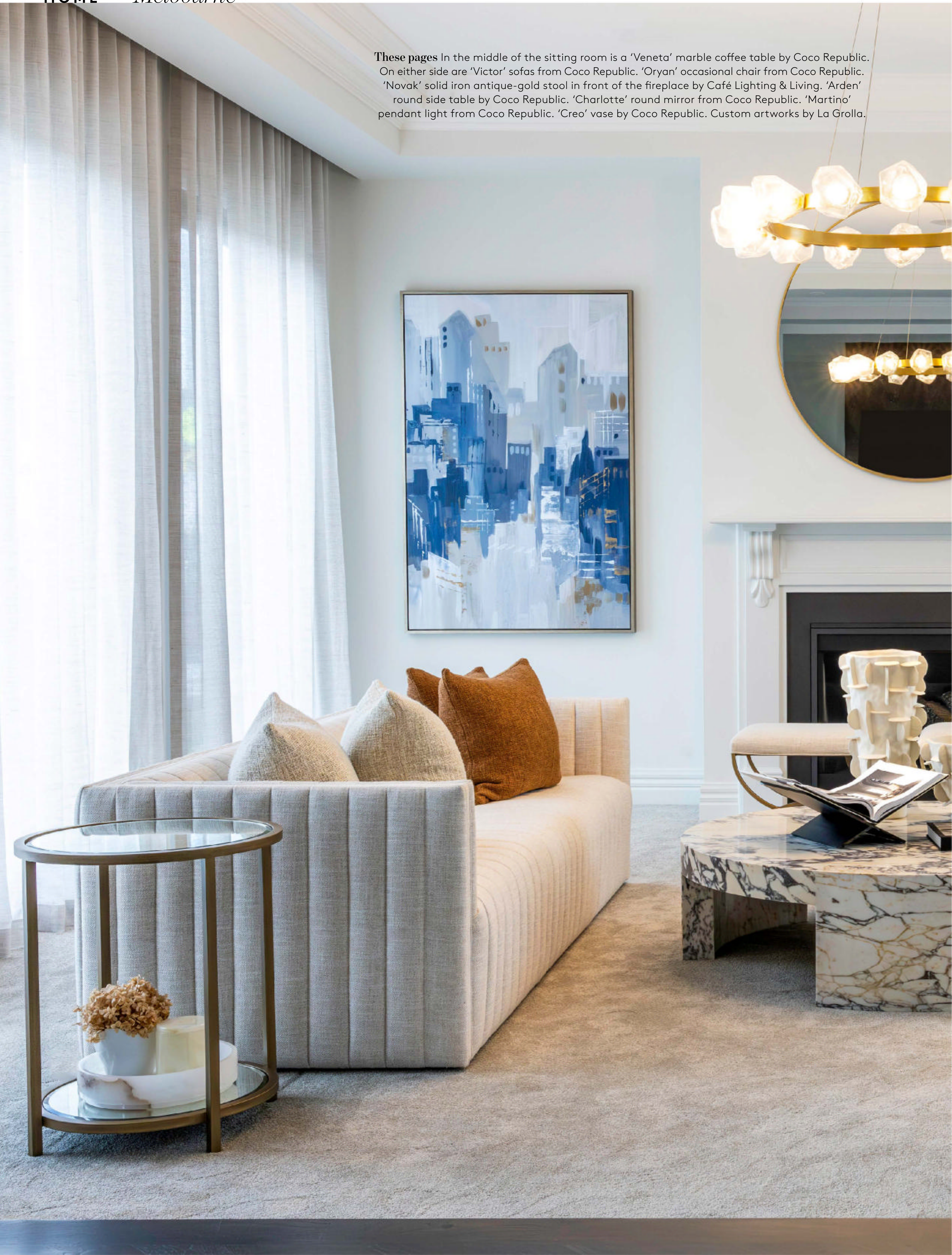
This page and opposite (below) The house is filled with showstopping chandeliers such as the Timothy Oulton 'Odeon' rectangle pendant. Calacatta Oro stone on island from G-Lux. 'Julio' bar stools from Coco Republic. 'Malta' pedestal bowl from Papaya. In the butler's pantry is a Smeg oven. **Opposite page** (top) Custom dining table with black stain by Coco Republic. 'Ashton' dining chairs by Cafe Lighting & Living. 'Sebastien' sideboard from Coco Republic. 'Tula' vases from Papaya. Pear tree branches from Flowers Vasette. Artwork by La Grolla. On the kitchen island is a papier-mâché bowl by LuMu Studio.



From the street, this home in Melbourne's Essendon emanates a soft glow. Thanks to a spectrum of large custom chandeliers, it radiates with light. "The illumination comes from optical-grade glass prisms that create a distinctive sparkle," explains Rohan Smith, senior interior designer at Coco Republic. Working with British-based design firm Timothy Oulton, he says that each of the bespoke fixtures were crafted to cast mesmerising refractions. "When the downlights are off, the house has an entirely different ambience. It just dazzles."

The home's expansiveness and high ceilings meant it could cope with oversized lighting and, when it came to the voluminous rooms, broad furniture was necessary in order to anchor each space. "The house is very big, which was magnified even further when we did our first walkthrough and it was empty," says Rohan, who was a little concerned about filling it with pieces that were in proportion to the build. "It's really vast. Everything needed to be the perfect size so as not to get lost or be too overwhelmed. In particular, we really focused on large sofas and artworks to soak up the space."

While the architecture dictated the floor plan, furniture placement impacted the flow and spatial arrangement via its positioning, shape and size. "Our starting point involved planning how pieces would fit to scale relative to one another," explains Rohan. This is especially evident in the home theatre, where an oversized metal 'Oliver' floor lamp sits next to a robust, black oak 'Amsterdam' entertainment unit, both from Coco Republic. »



These pages In the middle of the sitting room is a 'Veneta' marble coffee table by Coco Republic. On either side are 'Victor' sofas from Coco Republic. 'Oryan' occasional chair from Coco Republic. 'Novak' solid iron antique-gold stool in front of the fireplace by Café Lighting & Living. 'Arden' round side table by Coco Republic. 'Charlotte' round mirror from Coco Republic. 'Martino' pendant light from Coco Republic. 'Creo' vase by Coco Republic. Custom artworks by La Grolla.

« The home's grand entry peels off to an elegant texture-on-texture sitting room at the side. An ornate staircase straight ahead is lit by a Timothy Oulton 'Crossglass' pendant, its sweeping arcs of overlapping crystal glass dripping light through the void. Further down the corridor is a guest bedroom and ensuite, with a 'theatre room' opposite. Rohan explains that the idea was to create a "man-cave-meets-gentlemen's-club feel", complete with a rich leather modular sofa, large TV and whisky set. "The house is quite pretty, so we decided to counteract the femininity with something a little more masculine," he adds.

Before reaching the rear of the building, there's a powder room and a temperature-controlled wine room. A few steps down leads to the rear with a kitchen and butler's pantry, dining and living area all sharing one sweeping space. Despite being slightly below the ground floor, the ceiling height stayed the same, which accentuated the internal volume even more. »

These pages (from left) Hanging over the decorative wrought-iron balustrade is a Timothy Oulton 'Crossglass' pendant from Coco Republic. // The main bedroom's walls are lined in navy grasscloth wallpaper from Porter's Paints. Framing either side of the bed, with its custom headboard, are Timothy Oulton 'Night Rod' pendants from Coco Republic. Timothy Oulton marble bedside tables from Coco Republic. White 'Valero' sofa from Coco Republic.

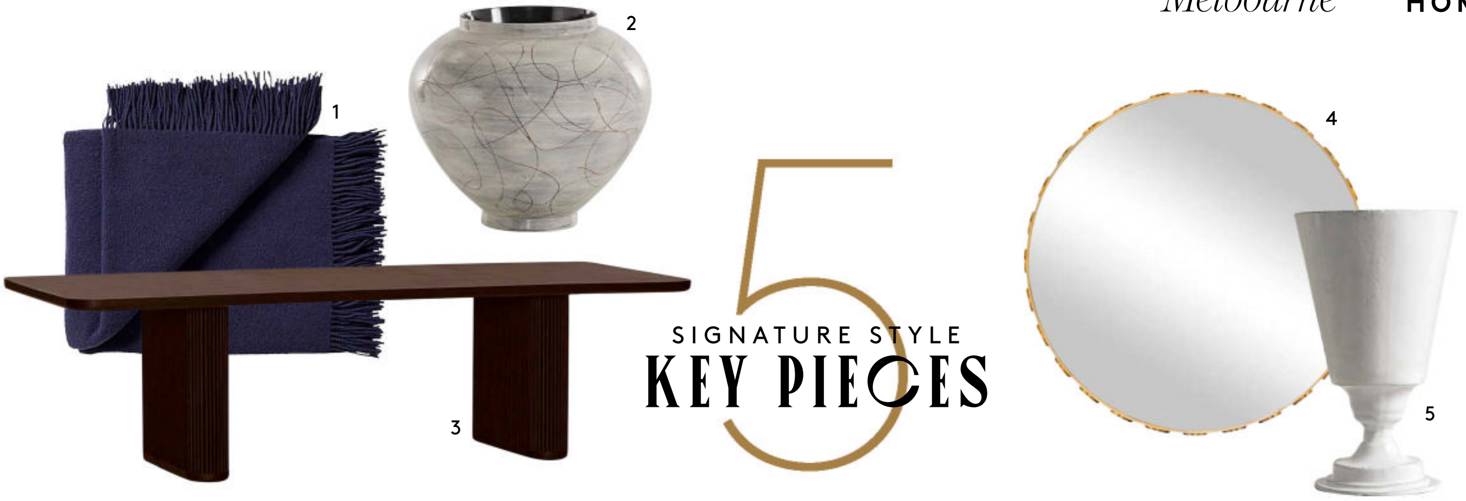
« On the first floor, there's an open-plan lounge complete with a bar and sink. The breakout area is shared by three bedrooms, each with an ensuite. Accessible via large double doors, the main bedroom suite has a hotel-like quality and occupies a wing so generous that Rohan needed to incorporate a sofa on an angle at the foot of the bed to partition the space. Lined in grasscloth wallpaper with a plush custom headboard, the tonal blue scheme is moody and cosseting. The owners say it's their favourite space. "We wanted a balance of comfort and style with quality materials that would be both luxurious and inviting. The goal was for a harmonious environment that would complement the architecture."

Jumping onto the project after the build had been completed meant Rohan was working with a blank slate. Alongside Coco Republic interior stylist Michelle Langford, they responded to the client's brief with loose furniture and decorative items that were sumptuous yet easy to live with. "Our brief was for a sophisticated and timeless space with a focus on natural textures and warm tones," says the owner.

As the surfaces and finishes of the home are light and neutral, Rohan and Michelle introduced accents of colour into the decoration and furnishings. "Downstairs, we've used pops of colour for visual interest but nothing too much," says Rohan, referencing the teal sofas in the living room and blue artworks in the sitting area. "But upstairs, we took things to the next level in the main bedroom, layering it up with a tonal palette of navy on navy." With plush bedding and a quilted headboard, it's the owner's favourite spot – a quiet retreat that's the epitome of contemporary, cosy comfort with lashings of luxe.

cocorepublic.com.au; marque.com.au

5 SIGNATURE STYLE
KEY PIECES



1 Weave 'Nevis' **throw** in Navy, $269.95, David Jones. 2 'Ayla' **vase** in White, $395, Coco Republic. 3 'Piedmont' **dining table** in Tobacco, $5195, Coco Republic. 4 'Levin' outdoor **wall mirror** in Antiqued Brass, $2295, Coco Republic. 5 Astier De Villatte 'Simple' ceramic **vase** in White, $560, Net-A-Porter.

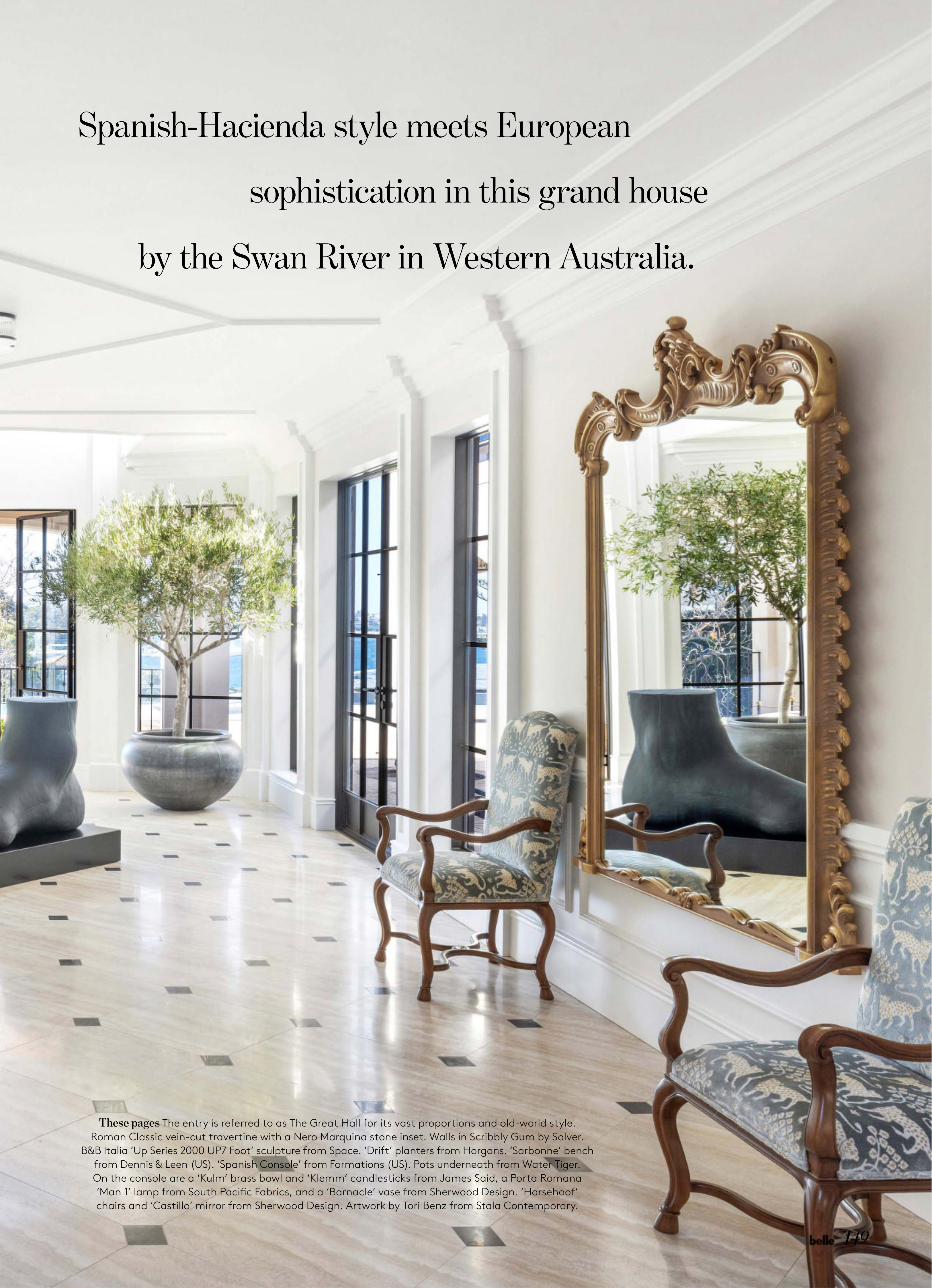
SPEED READ

» The large internal volumes of this home in Essendon required perfectly proportioned furniture that wouldn't get lost in the spaces. » Rohan Smith, senior interior designer at Coco Republic, sourced many oversized pieces, including large, opulent chandeliers and sconces by Timothy Oulton which radiate soft, ambient light. » The clients wanted a home that was practical and versatile without forsaking glamour and style. » To uplift some of the neutral base finishes, Rohan introduced accents of colour on the ground floor via blue artworks and teal sofas. » Upstairs, he created a more intense palette, especially in the navy bedroom.

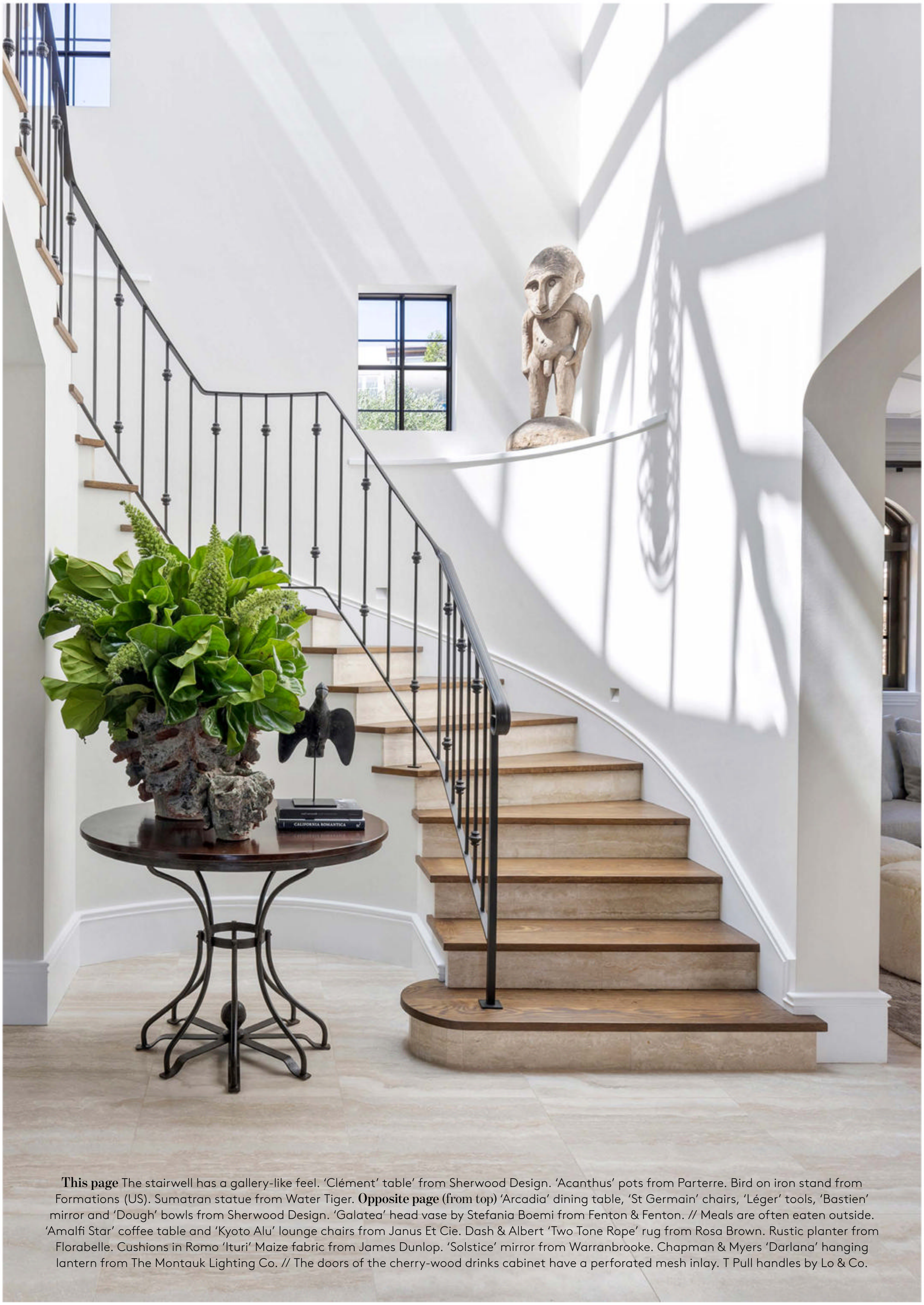
EMBRACING ELEGANCE

Words **CARLI PHILIPS** Photography **ANGELITA BONETTI**

Spanish-Hacienda style meets European sophistication in this grand house by the Swan River in Western Australia.



These pages The entry is referred to as The Great Hall for its vast proportions and old-world style. Roman Classic vein-cut travertine with a Nero Marquina stone inset. Walls in Scribbly Gum by Solver. B&B Italia 'Up Series 2000 UP7 Foot' sculpture from Space. 'Drift' planters from Horgans. 'Sarbonne' bench from Dennis & Leen (US). 'Spanish Console' from Formations (US). Pots underneath from Water Tiger. On the console are a 'Kulm' brass bowl and 'Klemm' candlesticks from James Said, a Porta Romana 'Man 1' lamp from South Pacific Fabrics, and a 'Barnacle' vase from Sherwood Design. 'Horsehoof' chairs and 'Castillo' mirror from Sherwood Design. Artwork by Tori Benz from Stala Contemporary.



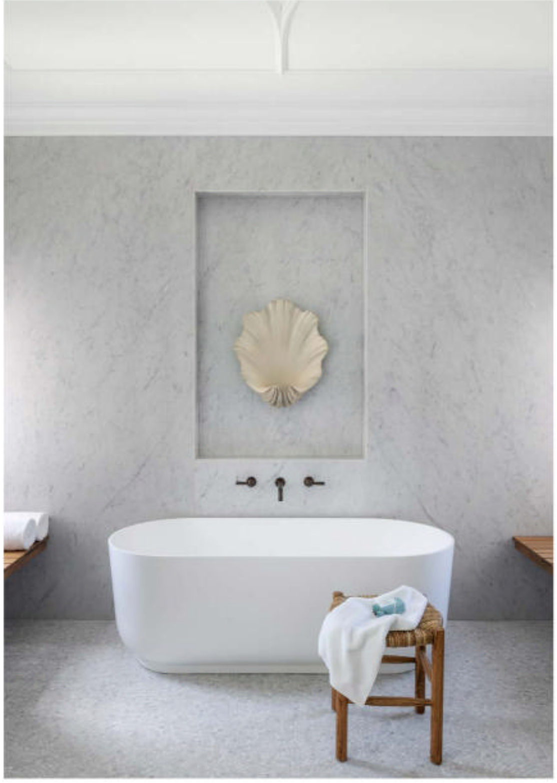
This page The stairwell has a gallery-like feel. 'Clément' table' from Sherwood Design. 'Acanthus' pots from Parterre. Bird on iron stand from Formations (US). Sumatran statue from Water Tiger. **Opposite page (from top)** 'Arcadia' dining table, 'St Germain' chairs, 'Léger' tools, 'Bastien' mirror and 'Dough' bowls from Sherwood Design. 'Galatea' head vase by Stefania Boemi from Fenton & Fenton. // Meals are often eaten outside. 'Amalfi Star' coffee table and 'Kyoto Alu' lounge chairs from Janus Et Cie. Dash & Albert 'Two Tone Rope' rug from Rosa Brown. Rustic planter from Florabelle. Cushions in Romo 'Ituri' Maize fabric from James Dunlop. 'Solstice' mirror from Warranbrooke. Chapman & Myers 'Darlana' hanging lantern from The Montauk Lighting Co. // The doors of the cherry-wood drinks cabinet have a perforated mesh inlay. T Pull handles by Lo & Co.

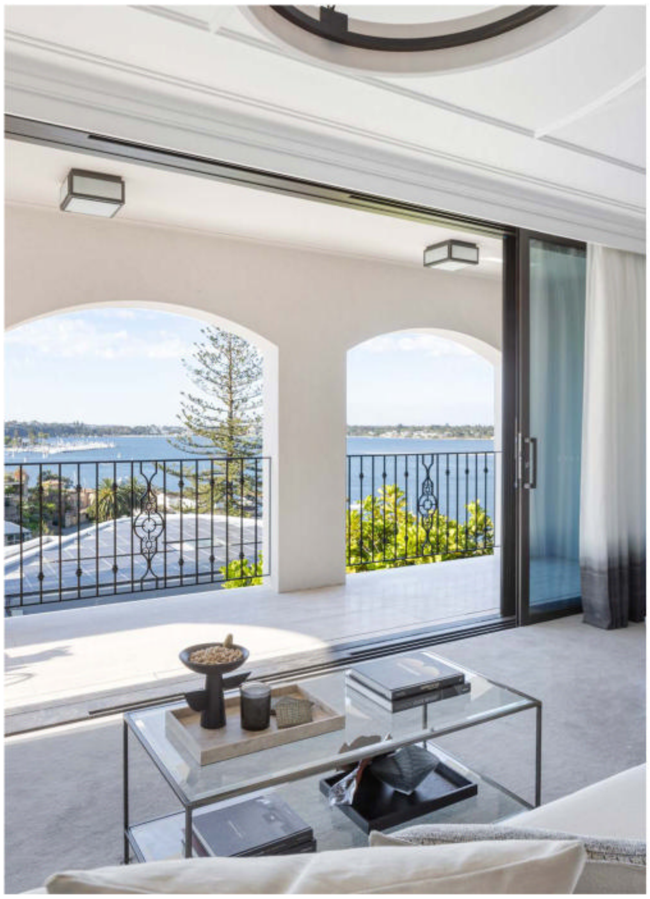
Gabrielle Sherwood describes the beautiful home she designed for a client in Western Australia as a "modern ode to Spanish Colonial design". Located in the suburb of Mosman Park and perched on the Swan River – named after the famous black swans that originally inhabited the area – the house is ringed by 180-degree water views. "It's one of the best locations in Perth," raves the interior designer and director of Sherwood Design.

As their services were engaged before construction began, Gabrielle and her team had the opportunity to specify everything from the minutiae to the maximal, from the joinery knobs to the floor tiles. The direction was clear and involved "seamlessly intertwining historical grandeur with contemporary sophistication". Achieving this tension between modern and traditional was key to the brief, and at the aesthetic core of Gabrielle's design sensibilities.

With a degree in art history and parents who are creatives, the designer has a deep respect for well-made furniture. "My mother is an interior designer and my father is a furniture designer and sculptor," she explains. "Design and art were our dinner conversations; it's what we grew up talking about and it shaped my appreciation for thoughtful, considered design and my approach to craftsmanship."

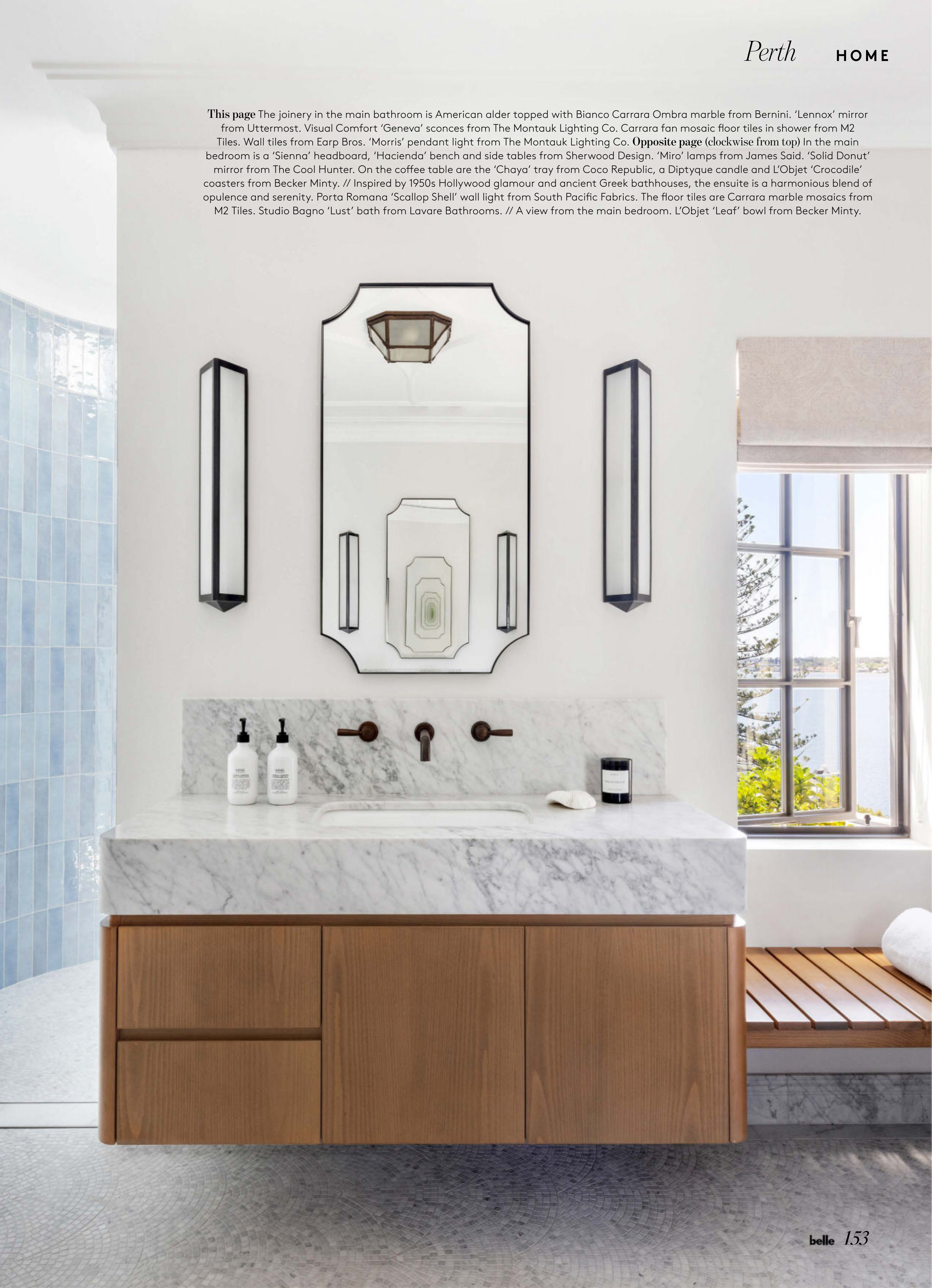
Tricky spaces and unusual dimensions made it difficult to furnish the interiors with only antiques, so Gabrielle incorporated a combination of beautiful, ready-made furniture and bespoke pieces from her sister company, Sherwood Furniture. "However, I still wanted them to look aged and have the same warmth as antique pieces; they look like they've been handed down through the generations." To achieve an authentic aged appearance that's imperceptible from a vintage look, her team used a variety of »



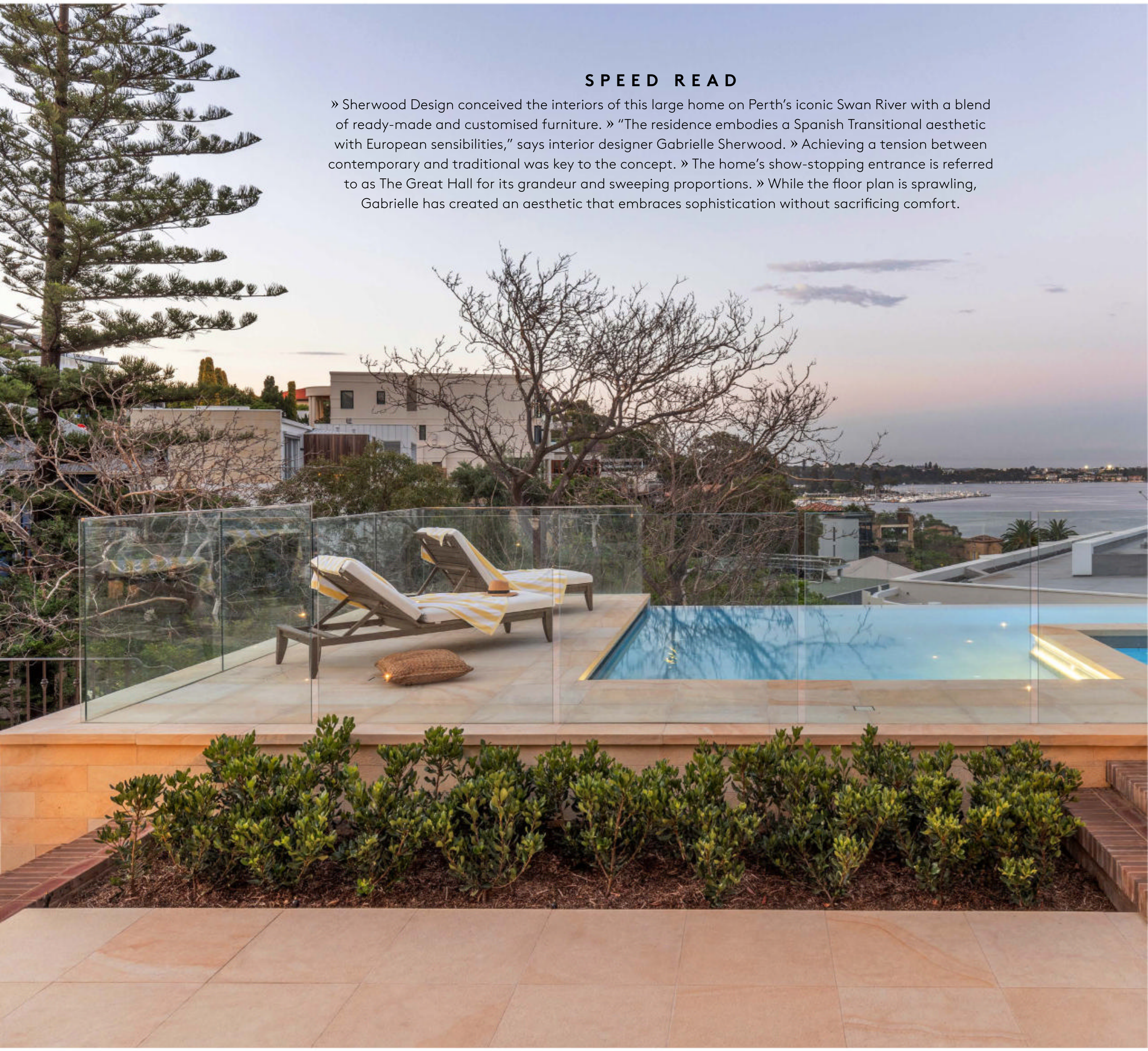


« techniques: chain distressing, where chains are rattled over the timber surface to create controlled dents and imperfections, mimicking the natural wear of time; finishing methods such as hand-painting, distressing, shading and patinating; and water-based stains to enhance the depth and richness of the colours to bring out the natural character and beauty of the timber. Other pieces were sourced from Ochre in London and Dennis & Leen in Los Angeles.

The home's entrance is affectionately referred to as The Great Hall for its grandeur and sweeping proportions. But although the property was purchased for its extraordinary panorama, Gabrielle designed the entry to be more inwards-facing, an effect she created by positioning B&B Italia's massive 'UP7 Foot' sculpture by Gaetano Pesce in the centre of the space. "It really draws the eye in and creates an easy flow that focuses on the interior experience, rather than the exterior vistas," she says. With its European elegance, Gabrielle says the idea was to "create a sense of escapism that transports the client and their guests on a journey into another world of beauty and wonder". Decorated with a hand-carved and gilded Rococo-style mirror, there are also olive trees, two bespoke 'Horsehoof' chairs by Sherwood Furniture and a Spanish console from Formations in Los Angeles that has been crafted from walnut wood with intricate geometric carvings »



This page The joinery in the main bathroom is American alder topped with Bianco Carrara Ombra marble from Bernini. 'Lennox' mirror from Uttermost. Visual Comfort 'Geneva' sconces from The Montauk Lighting Co. Carrara fan mosaic floor tiles in shower from M2 Tiles. Wall tiles from Earp Bros. 'Morris' pendant light from The Montauk Lighting Co. **Opposite page (clockwise from top)** In the main bedroom is a 'Sienna' headboard, 'Hacienda' bench and side tables from Sherwood Design. 'Miro' lamps from James Said. 'Solid Donut' mirror from The Cool Hunter. On the coffee table are the 'Chaya' tray from Coco Republic, a Diptyque candle and L'Objet 'Crocodile' coasters from Becker Minty. // Inspired by 1950s Hollywood glamour and ancient Greek bathhouses, the ensuite is a harmonious blend of opulence and serenity. Porta Romana 'Scallop Shell' wall light from South Pacific Fabrics. The floor tiles are Carrara marble mosaics from M2 Tiles. Studio Bagno 'Lust' bath from Lavare Bathrooms. // A view from the main bedroom. L'Objet 'Leaf' bowl from Becker Minty.



SPEED READ

» Sherwood Design conceived the interiors of this large home on Perth's iconic Swan River with a blend of ready-made and customised furniture. » "The residence embodies a Spanish Transitional aesthetic with European sensibilities," says interior designer Gabrielle Sherwood. » Achieving a tension between contemporary and traditional was key to the concept. » The home's show-stopping entrance is referred to as The Great Hall for its grandeur and sweeping proportions. » While the floor plan is sprawling, Gabrielle has created an aesthetic that embraces sophistication without sacrificing comfort.

5 SIGNATURE STYLE KEY PIECES

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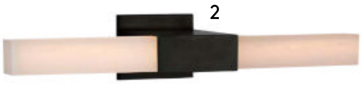

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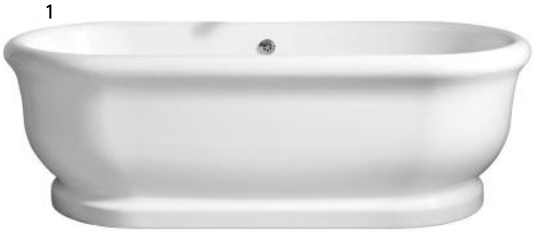

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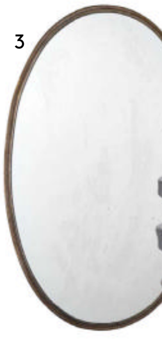

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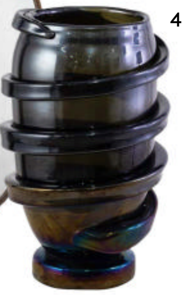

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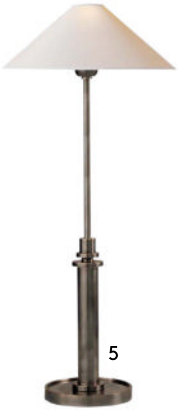


1 The Water Monopoly 'Hanley' **bath** in White, $16,240, The English Tapware Company. 2 Visual Comfort 'Covet' over-the-mirror **bath light** in Bronze and Alabaster by Kelly Wearstler, POA, Bloomingdales Lighting. 3 1970s Italian brass **mirror** with beaded edge, $1950, The Vault Sydney. 4 Murano **vase** in Black with applied iridescent swirl, $1950, The Vault Sydney. 5 Visual Comfort 'Hargett' **buffet lamp** in Bronze with natural paper shade, $1250, Laura Kincade.

« and floral motifs. Off The Great Hall is a cloakroom, followed by a powder room lined in De Gournay wallpaper.

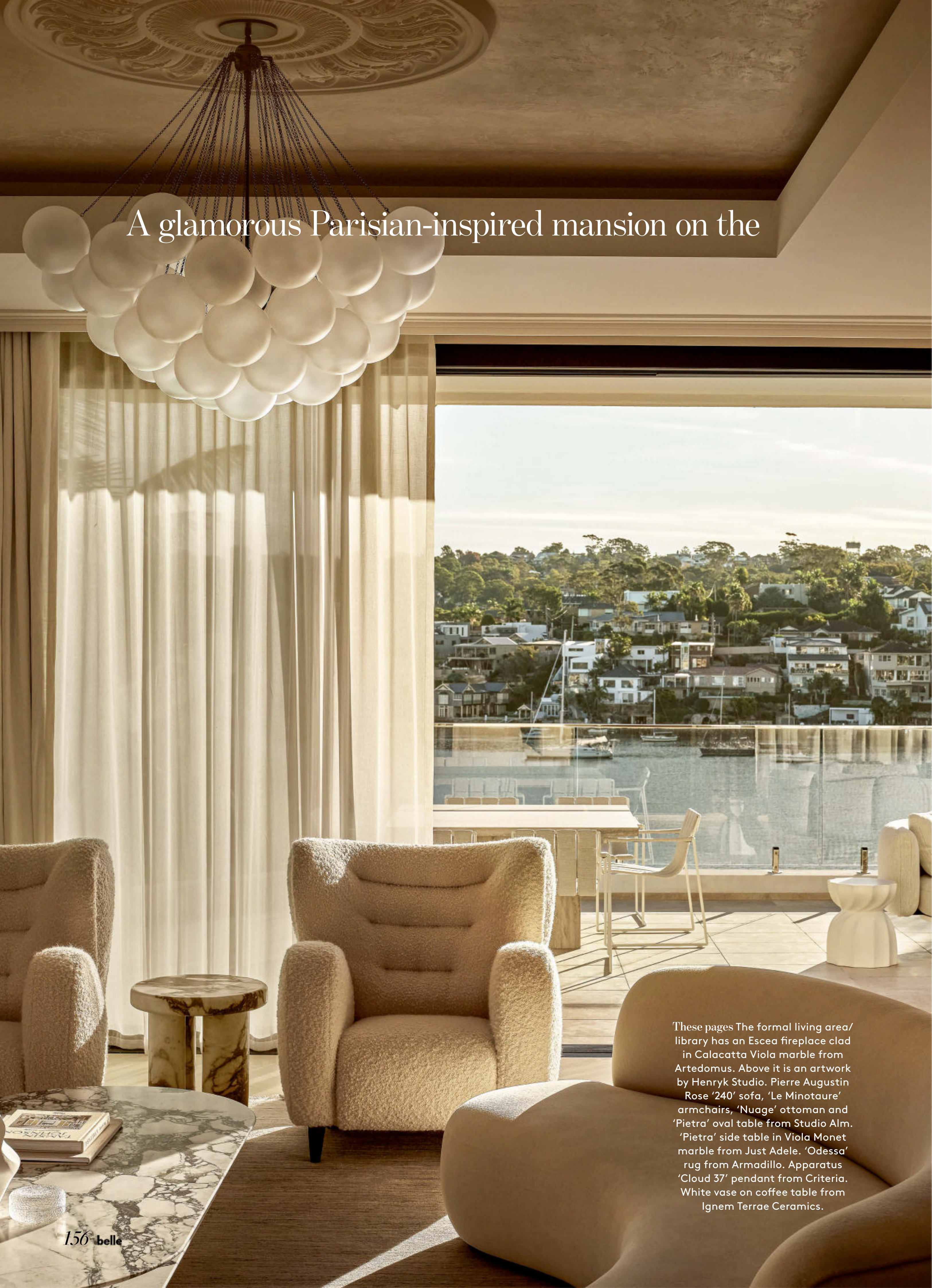
Opposite, the foyer opens into the formal dining room, which flows onto an alfresco balcony that's used year-round, thanks to Perth's mild climate. The kitchen, living and utility spaces are located in the east wing of the home. Gabrielle's influences were a combination of traditional Spanish-Hacienda style, Renaissance architecture and the work of renowned contemporary designers such as Jake Arnold, Kelly Wearstler and the late Australian interior designer, Garth Barnett.

A skylight spills sunshine through the stairwell where three Sumatran statues from Water Tiger stand sentry on the steps. The 50-square-metre first floor west wing was designed specifically for guests, featuring five bedrooms, a tea station and a centrally located shared lounge with a large bookcase and small bar. Stretching along the other side of the first floor, to the right of the staircase, is the main bedroom, gym, treatment room, ensuite and walk-in-wardrobe. "This house is what I refer to as 'livable luxe'," says Gabrielle. "It embraces elegance without sacrificing comfort."

sherwooddesign.com.au; sherwoodfurniture.com.au

These pages The home's architecture was inspired by Spanish Colonial design. From the pool, there are flawless views across the Swan River. 'Relais' chaise lounges from Janus Et Cie. Water hyacinth cushion from Uniqwa.

A glamorous Parisian-inspired mansion on the



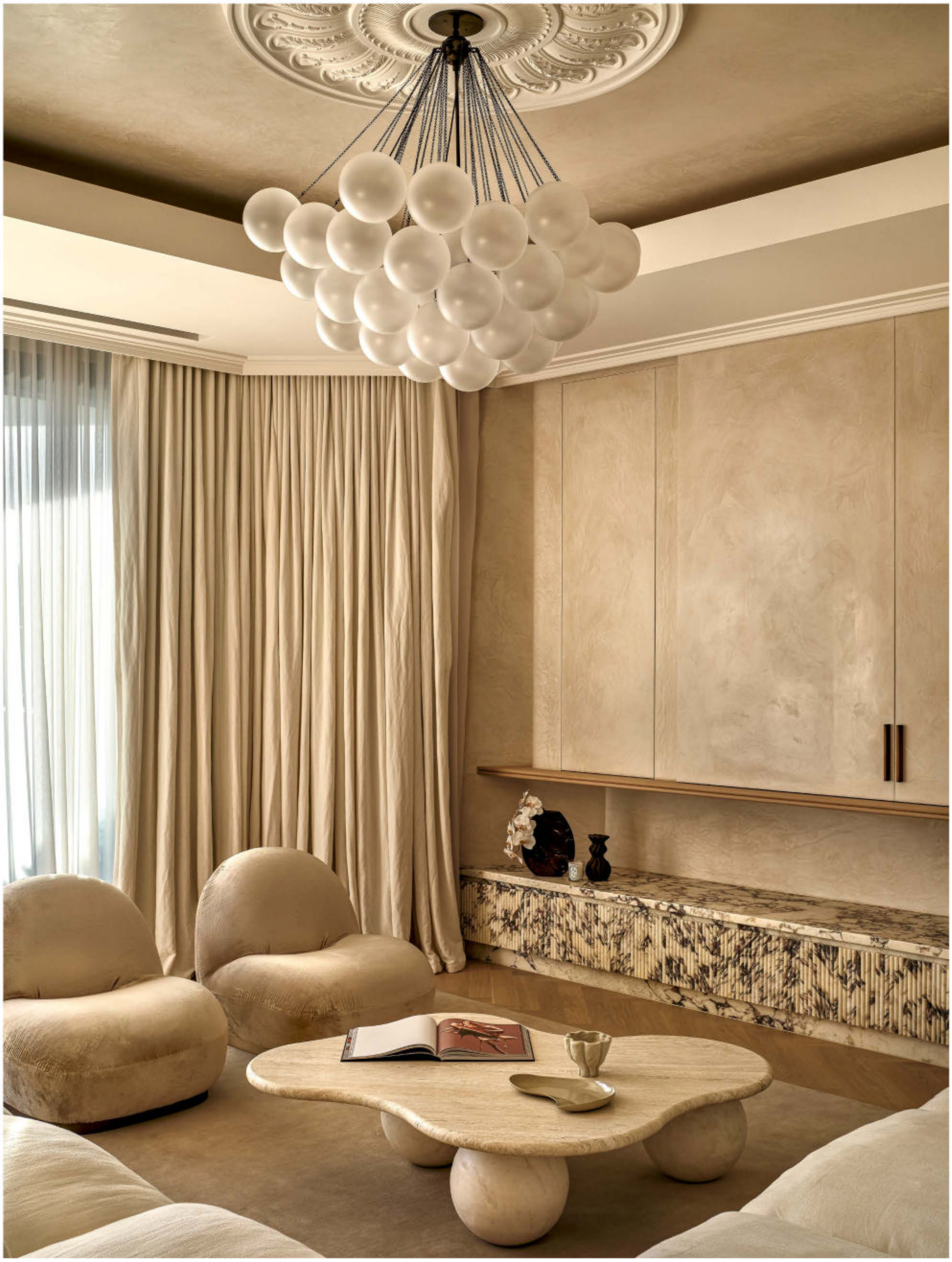
These pages The formal living area/library has an Escea fireplace clad in Calacatta Viola marble from Artedomus. Above it is an artwork by Henryk Studio. Pierre Augustin Rose '240' sofa, 'Le Minotaure' armchairs, 'Nuage' ottoman and 'Pietra' oval table from Studio Alm. 'Pietra' side table in Viola Monet marble from Just Adele. 'Odessa' rug from Armadillo. Apparatus 'Cloud 37' pendant from Criteria. White vase on coffee table from Ignem Terrae Ceramics.

water has become a chic retreat for its owner.

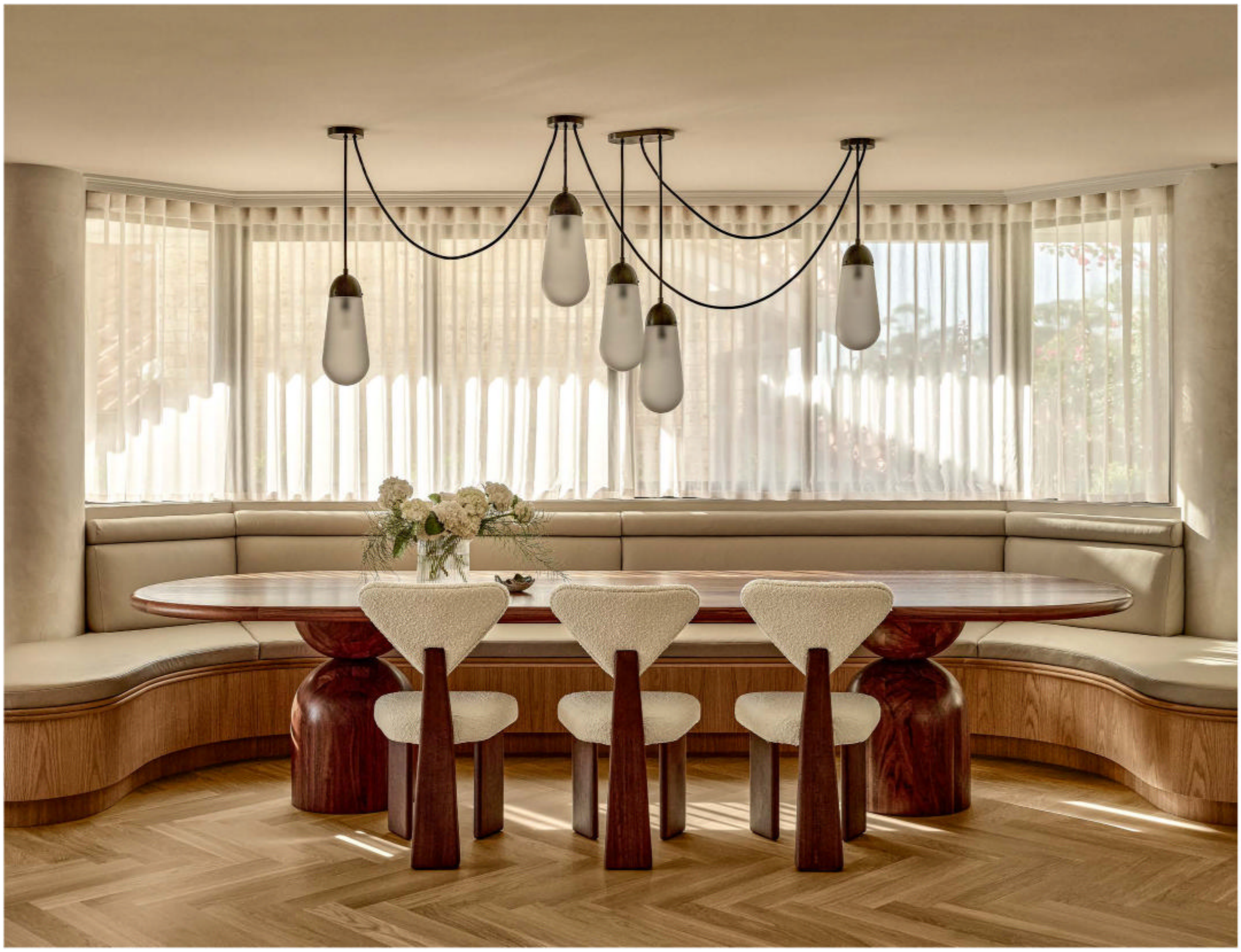
MILAN CHIC
TAMSIN JOHNSON

Words **CHRIS PEARSON** Photography **RYAN LINNEGAR** Styling **KERRIE-ANN JONES**

FRENCH CLASS



This page Shoring up the family living area are 'Perenne' European oak herringbone flooring from Mint Floors & Shutters. Plaster walls and coffered ceiling in custom colour by Stucco Galleria. Ceiling in Dulux Natural White; plaster ceiling rose from Sydney Plasterworks. Joinery in Calacatta Viola marble from Artedomus. 'Fleur' pulls from Lo & Co. European oak shelving by Oska Group. Blockout curtains in Dedar Milano 'Belsuede' from South Pacific Fabrics, and sheers in Zimmer + Rohde 'Ultraplus' from Unique Fabrics, both by Insync Interiors. Apparatus 'Cloud 37' pendant from Criteria. 'Grace' sofa from Crafted Furniture. 'Blob' travertine coffee table and custom chairs from Fform. 'Eden' rug from Armadillo. Small vases on bench and coffee table by Elena Morgan. **Opposite page** Arch bar in more Calacatta Viola. Custom travertine table by Jarrett & Co. 'Otto' chairs by Dimitri Vargas. 'Coral Duo' pendant from Soktas. 'Hackney' sconces from Bloomingdales Lighting. Vases on table from Curatorial+Co.



With Parisian flair flowing through this elegant home, it could be beside the Seine in Paris, with the Eiffel Tower framed by its generous glazing. Crafted curves, wainscoting, herringbone floors and a general *je ne sais quoi* make its French-born owner feel totally at home. Yet instead, it's poised above a bay in Sydney's south with its own alluring beauty.

When designers Holly Andrianakos and Madi McTigue of Studio Albus first eyed the property, with its rather severe 1990s build, in 2022, such heady glamour remained a world away. "The interior was stark monochrome, with black and white shiny surfaces, gold trims, crystals and mosaics," says Holly. "While opulent, it felt dated and disconnected from the water."

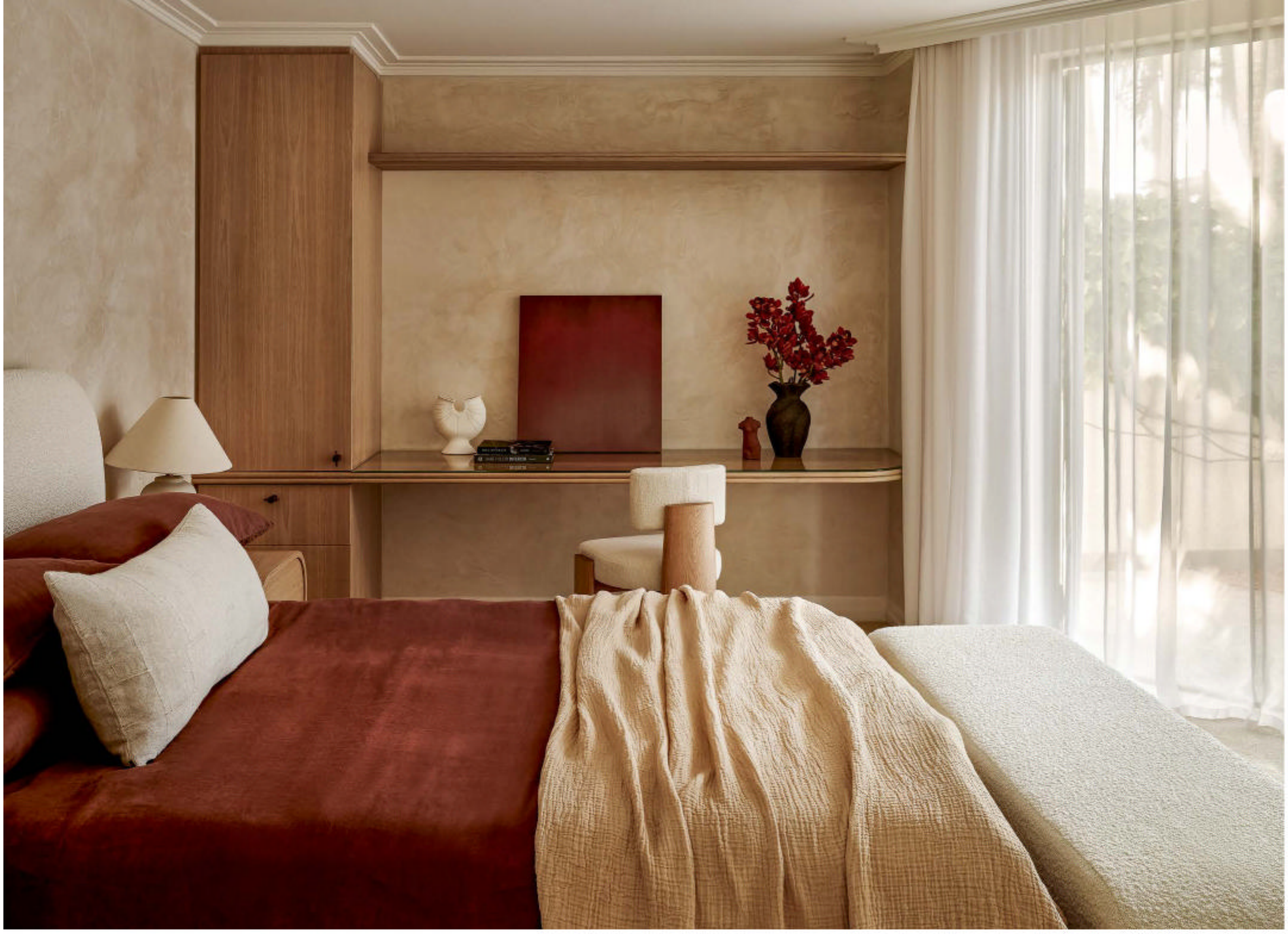
More mansion than maison, the generous home extends over three levels, with the living areas and main bedroom suite on the ground floor, three bedrooms on the first floor and a fifth bedroom, gym and rumpus occupying the basement. First up, the duo focused on the split-level living areas, where the priority was capitalising on the stunning water view, explains Madi. Rather inexplicably, a feature wall blocked the living and dining areas from the entry, impeding sightlines to the water. "The owners envisioned a seamless flow between spaces, with layouts that encouraged togetherness but also offered privacy," she says. "They also wanted a perfect balance between functionality for their family and spaces that could host guests in style."

"Our brief was for understated Parisian elegance and refined sophistication while embracing warmth and relaxed family living," adds Holly. "The ambience was to be layered richness, the spaces unified by muted tones and natural textures." Intricate detailing, fashioned in luxe materials, topped the wishlist.

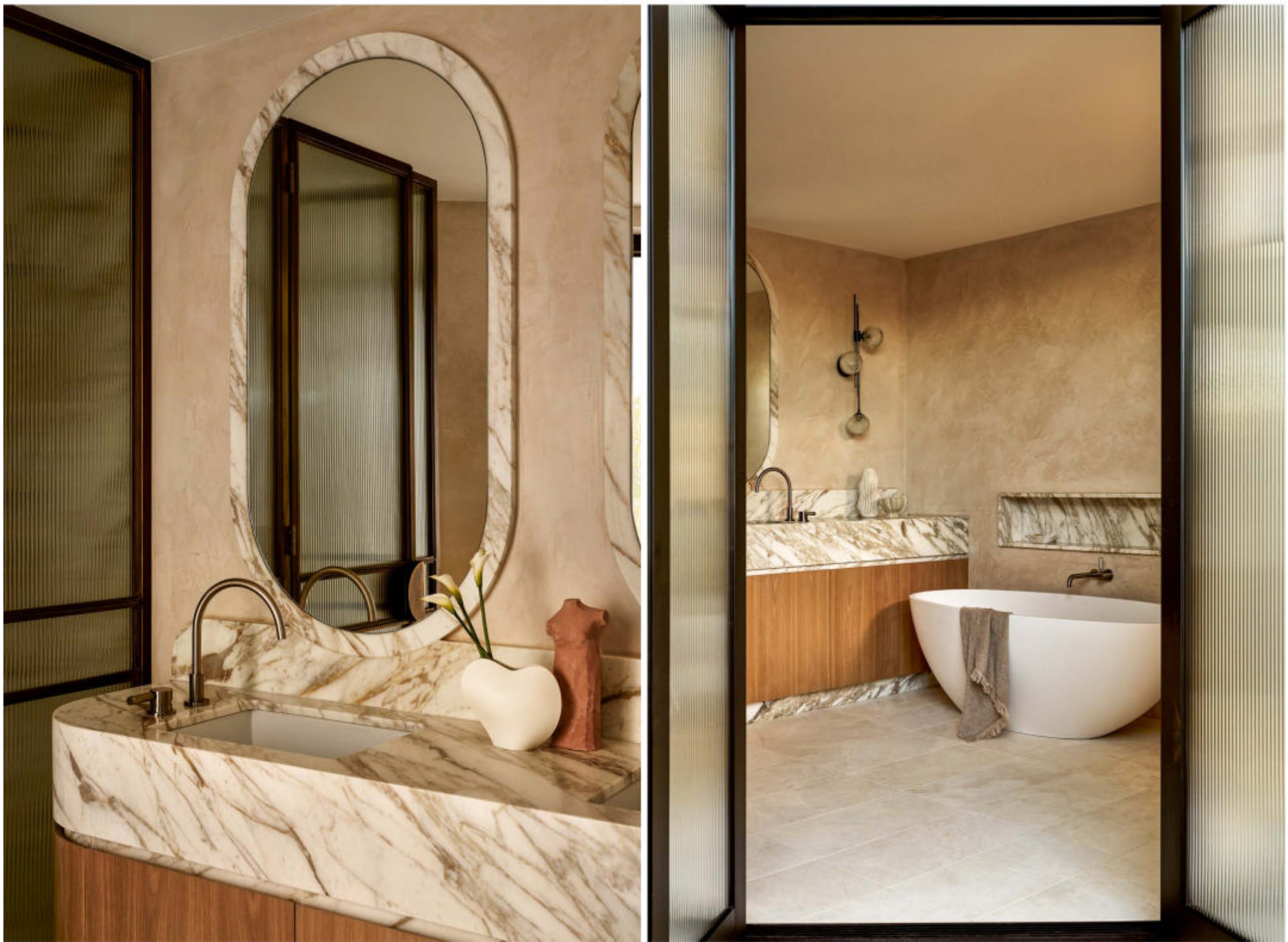
First up, they removed that awkward wall and "the view became the hero of the entire floor, making it much more cohesive and inviting", says Holly. Otherwise, the designers left the floor plan largely intact, the main exception being the kitchen. After opening it up, they installed a generous island in the middle to make it a social hub. In the adjoining informal dining area, a banquette was formed in a bay window. Meanwhile, a new fireplace and joinery create gravitas in the formal living.

The angular architecture played a pivotal role. "We embraced the angles, but created a gentler flow by rounding off the stairs, »

These pages The informal dining area within the kitchen has a banquette in Crown Cut Oak from New Age Veneers, with Pelle leather squab by Oska Group. 'Double Bell' dining table in Solid Walnut from The Wood Room. Juliana Vasconcellos 'Giraffe' dining chairs from The Invisible Collection. Apparatus 'Lariat 1' pendants from Criteria. Sheers in Zimmer + Rohde 'Ultraplus' from Unique Fabrics by Insync Interiors. Ceramic dish by Katie Manekshaw from Saint Cloche. Grassello plaster walls in custom colour from Calce Company, applied by Stucco Galleria. Joinery with Shaker profile in Dulux Buff. Benchtop and kickboard in Calacatta Viola from Artedomus, made by Sawan Stone. 'Kintore' pull handles in Bronze from Lo & Co. Icon+ pot filler in Tuscan Bronze from Astra Walker. Pre-existing cooktops. Qasair 'Conley' rangehood from Winning Appliances. 'Coral Duo' pendant and 'Coral Organic' wall sconce from Søktas. 'The Iron and Rolled Stools' from Thomas Hayes Studio. Bloom Collection bowl by Michelle Samaras. Stoneware vase by Katarina Wells from Curatorial+Co.



This page (top and opposite page) In the main bedroom, the walls are by Stucco Galleria. Custom European oak and Crown Cut Timber from New Age Veneers by Oska Group. Bichon tufted-pile carpet from Fyber. 'Krystal' bed and 'Arch' bench from Zenn Design. Linen from In Bed. 'Otto' chair by Dimitri Vargas. 'Bella' table lamp from Paola & Joy. Humble Matters white vessel from Curatorial+Co. Black vase by Michelle Samaras. Artwork by Indivi Sutton from Saint Cloche. **This page** (bottom left and right) Calacatta Vagli marble from Artedomus defines the main ensuite. Snow White marble tiles from STS Stone. Benchtop and mirror in Calacatta Vagli marble from Artedomus by Sawan Stone. Parisi 'Isola' bathtub and Studio Bagno 'Hyde' basin from Harvey Norman Commercial. Icon+ tapware from Astra Walker. 'Trilogy' sconce from Articolo. White vase by Ignem Terrae Ceramics. Torso sculpture by Kristiina Engelin from Curatorial+Co.



« introducing an archway and curving the joinery, for a soft aesthetic that contrasts against the architecture," says Madi. "Invoking classical refinement, these curves are also a nod to the Parisian aesthetic." Retaining the ceiling coffers in the living areas, the sense of grandeur was elevated with cove lighting, flourishes such as ceiling roses, and textured Venetian stucco.

Viola marble serves as a visual anchor throughout, unifying the entry, kitchen, living and dining spaces. So, too, does the Venetian plaster. "Not a single wall was left untouched," says Holly. "This created a sense of envelopment while reflecting light beautifully and forming a serene backdrop."

Replacing glary white marble, the European oak herringbone flooring also draws on the Parisian aesthetic while warming up the palette. So, too, does wainscoting in the entry and stair foyer – a full wall in the main entry and half wall in the foyer leading to the open plan. Curves are used generously. "We incorporated a bullnose profile into the joinery and marble wherever we could," says Madi. "This includes hardwood double-bullnosed shelves stained to match the floor, double-bullnosed steps and double-bullnosed stone benchtops in the kitchen, butler's pantry and laundry." Similarly, fluting recurs on the joinery. And because this home is close to the water, the designers used narrow-line fluted glass in the kitchen and dining areas to preserve privacy, as well as providing diffused light and further texture.

Calming neutral tones run throughout, a reflection of the luxurious yet muted natural materials, such as marble, oak and linen, with their air of relaxed glamour. Bronze and brushed-nickel lights, tapware and hardware lend elegance and warmth. »

SPEED READ

» When the owners bought this three-level 1990s home in Sydney's south, it was tired and dated, with hard, polished surfaces unconducive to a relaxed family home. » It also failed to function, with a wall awkwardly blocking the water views from the entry, and a kitchen that was closed off from the action. » The first stage of a renovation by Studio Albus interior designers Holly Andrianakos and Madi McTigue focused on the ground floor: the living and dining areas, the kitchen and the main bedroom suite. » To make it more family-friendly and suitable for entertaining, they removed that wall and opened up the kitchen while adding an informal dining with a huge banquette. » The designers drew inspiration from the owner's French origins, with Parisian flair featuring heavily in the interiors, expressed in ornate curves, wainscoting and herringbone flooring.

5 SIGNATURE STYLE KEY PIECES

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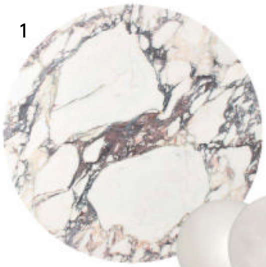

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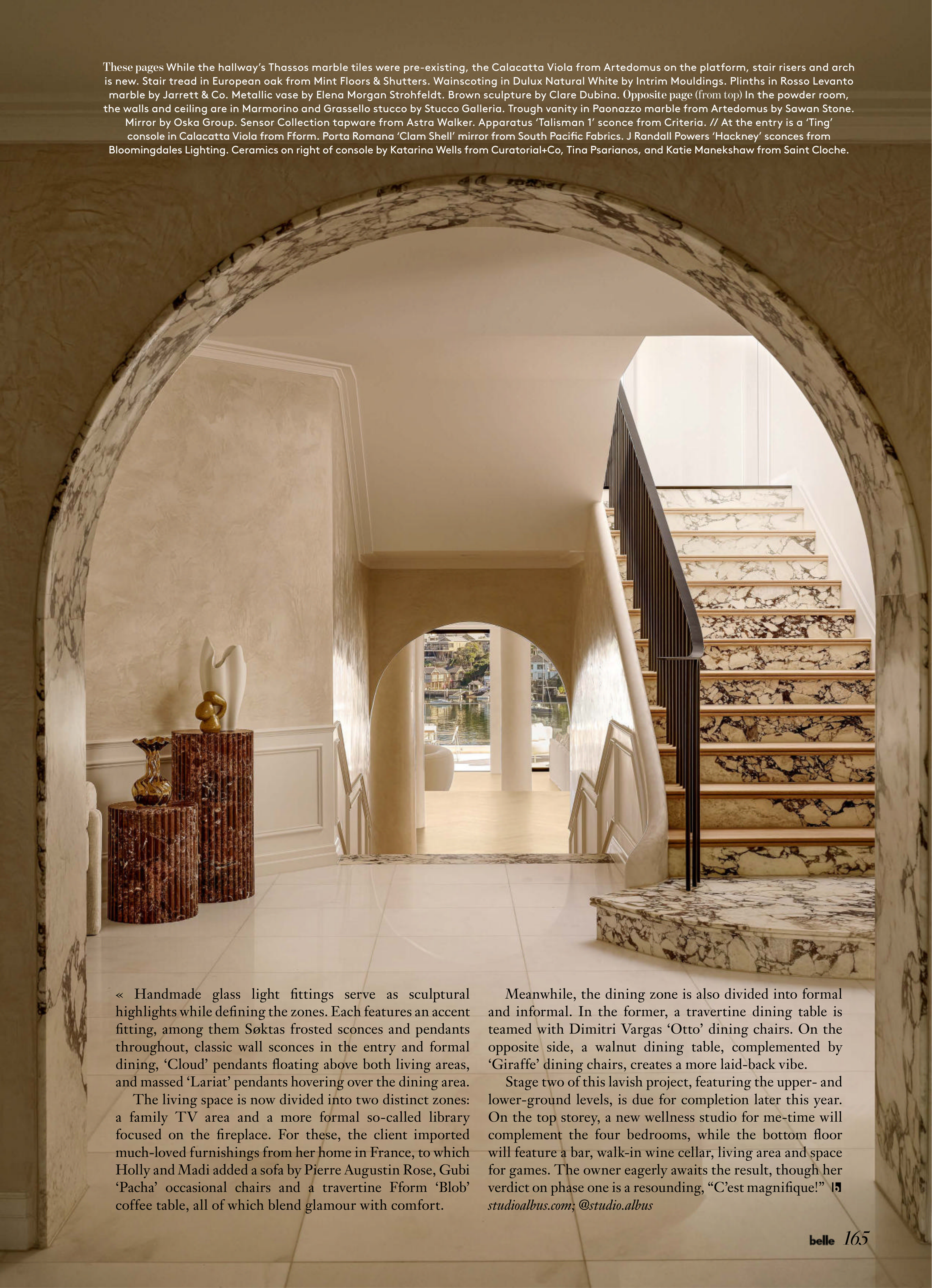
1 Calacatta Viola **marble**, POA, Signorino. 2 Aerin 'Cristol' **tiered chandelier** in hand-rubbed Antique Brass with White Strie Glass, $3790, The Montauk Lighting Co. 3 'Willow' **occasional chair** in Avignon Velvet Alabaster, $1695, Coco Republic. 4 'Polar' **tray** in Merlot & Viola, $350, Greg Natale. 5 'Sascha' oval **outdoor dining table** in Slate, $2999, Domayne.



These pages While the hallway's Thassos marble tiles were pre-existing, the Calacatta Viola from Artedomus on the platform, stair risers and arch is new. Stair tread in European oak from Mint Floors & Shutters. Wainscoting in Dulux Natural White by Intrim Mouldings. Plinths in Rosso Levanto marble by Jarrett & Co. Metallic vase by Elena Morgan Strohfeldt. Brown sculpture by Clare Dubina. Opposite page (from top) In the powder room, the walls and ceiling are in Marmorino and Grassello stucco by Stucco Galleria. Trough vanity in Paonazzo marble from Artedomus by Sawan Stone. Mirror by Oska Group. Sensor Collection tapware from Astra Walker. Apparatus 'Talisman 1' sconce from Criteria. // At the entry is a 'Ting' console in Calacatta Viola from Fform. Porta Romana 'Clam Shell' mirror from South Pacific Fabrics. J Randall Powers 'Hackney' sconces from Bloomingdales Lighting. Ceramics on right of console by Katarina Wells from Curatorial+Co, Tina Psarianos, and Katie Manekshaw from Saint Cloche.

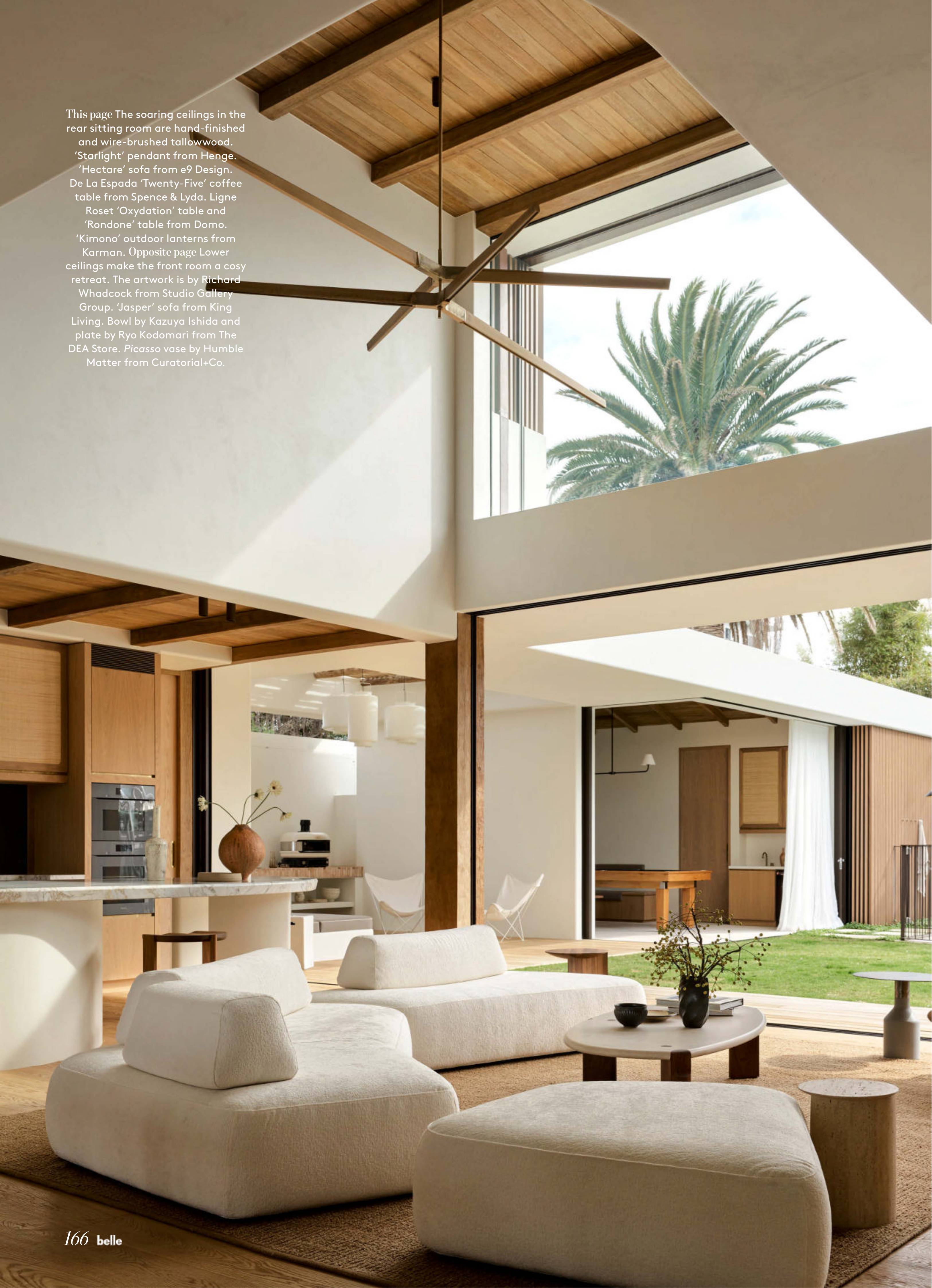
« Handmade glass light fittings serve as sculptural highlights while defining the zones. Each features an accent fitting, among them Søktas frosted sconces and pendants throughout, classic wall sconces in the entry and formal dining, 'Cloud' pendants floating above both living areas, and massed 'Lariat' pendants hovering over the dining area.

The living space is now divided into two distinct zones: a family TV area and a more formal so-called library focused on the fireplace. For these, the client imported much-loved furnishings from her home in France, to which Holly and Madi added a sofa by Pierre Augustin Rose, Gubi 'Pacha' occasional chairs and a travertine Fform 'Blob' coffee table, all of which blend glamour with comfort.

Meanwhile, the dining zone is also divided into formal and informal. In the former, a travertine dining table is teamed with Dimitri Vargas 'Otto' dining chairs. On the opposite side, a walnut dining table, complemented by 'Giraffe' dining chairs, creates a more laid-back vibe.

Stage two of this lavish project, featuring the upper- and lower-ground levels, is due for completion later this year. On the top storey, a new wellness studio for me-time will complement the four bedrooms, while the bottom floor will feature a bar, walk-in wine cellar, living area and space for games. The owner eagerly awaits the result, though her verdict on phase one is a resounding, "C'est magnifique!" ▪

studioalbus.com; @studio.albus

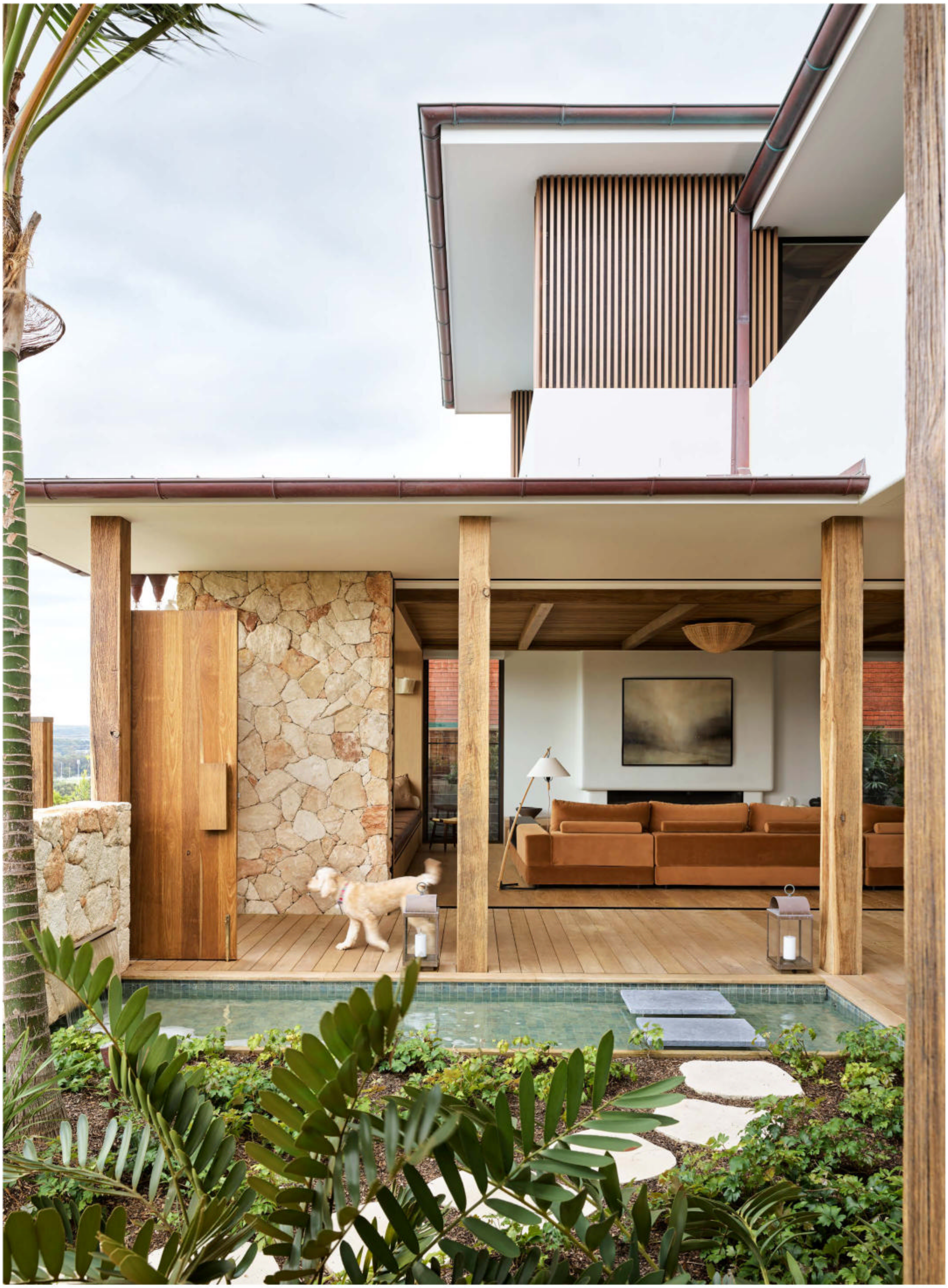


This page The soaring ceilings in the rear sitting room are hand-finished and wire-brushed tallowwood. 'Starlight' pendant from Henge. 'Hectare' sofa from e9 Design. De La Espada 'Twenty-Five' coffee table from Spence & Lyda. Ligne Roset 'Oxydation' table and 'Rondone' table from Domo. 'Kimono' outdoor lanterns from Karman. **Opposite page** Lower ceilings make the front room a cosy retreat. The artwork is by Richard Whadcock from Studio Gallery Group. 'Jasper' sofa from King Living. Bowl by Kazuya Ishida and plate by Ryo Kodomari from The DEA Store. *Picasso* vase by Humble Matter from Curatorial+Co.

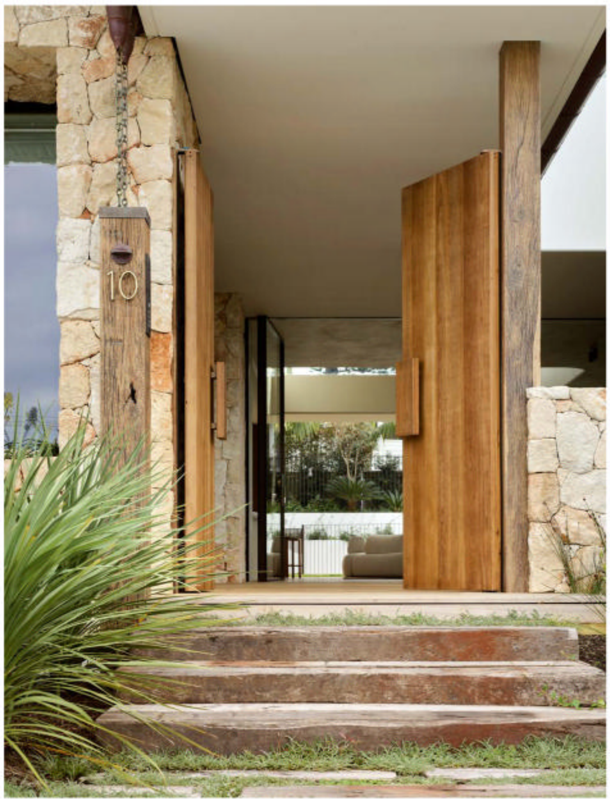
HOME *for the* HOLIDAYS

A family and their friends enjoy a resort-style experience on the Northern Beaches.

Words **CARLI PHILIPS** Photography **ANSON SMART** Styling **CLAIRE DELMAR**



This page In the largely open living area, the 'Rattan Daisy' flush ceiling light is from Soane Britain. 'Dornstab' floor lamp from Great Dane. Rug from Armadillo. Il Fanale 'Round Lanterne' outdoor floor lamps from Light Co. **Opposite page (clockwise from top left)** Details of the 'Jasper' sofa and Ligne Roset 'Rondone' occasional table. // A hefty main entry to the house from the street opens to the front courtyard. The steps are timber railway sleepers from Robert Plumb. // The front pavilion is mainly used by the kids for meals. Table and chairs from Robert Plumb. Glasses from Simple Beautiful Things. Carafe from Space.



Beyond the oversized, heavyset timber door of this house on Sydney's Northern Beaches is a tranquil compound that could be mistaken for a resort but is, in fact, a serene family home. "In the very first meeting, we pitched a resort-style concept to our clients, who said, 'Done – that's exactly what we were thinking,'" recalls Megan Burns, the creative director of CM Studio. "Early on in the process, they asked, 'Why can't our house feel like being on a permanent holiday?' And we said, 'Well, we don't see why not!'"

Surrounded by lush tropical landscaping and close to the beach, the natural environment provided the perfect foundation for the new build. The facade, a combination of sandstone, battened screens, rumbled brass and copper downpipes, has a protective shell that can withstand the strong winds of the south-facing headland location. Accessed via a covered walkway, through a private walled garden with a water feature, the house begins at a large pivot door. Whether it's dawdling on the way to school or wandering down to catch some waves, this in-between space sets the tone for an unhurried, laid-back lifestyle.

"We are lucky to have had the chance to travel over the years and stay in some beautifully designed and curated hotels," says Amy, who lives in the house with her husband, Gary, and their two children. "The main inspiration for the house has come from our island holidays in Fiji, the Maldives and Indonesia. »

« We've never been to the Caribbean, but I've always loved the relaxed and open architecture [from that region], which really informs a more casual approach to living."

Opening directly into a spacious kitchen, living and dining area with wire-brushed timber floors and high gabled ceilings lined in sandblasted tallowwood, the interiors are evocative of Balinese dwellings but with a contemporary Australian twist. Bookending either side of the rear zone are a laundry and a rumpus room. A separate guest bedroom and cosy secondary living room create a U-shape on either side of the front deck. There's also a covered yet open-to-the-sides terrace where the kids often eat away from the adults.

"A lot of people walk up and down the street because there's a national park in the area, so it was important nobody could see in," explains Megan. "The house is elevated from the street and by building a low stone wall along the facade, we enabled Amy and Gary to have privacy and still enjoy the views."

The interiors unfold at a leisurely pace, with an easy-to-navigate floor plan and ambience. Designed to expand and contract, the ceilings are lower in the kitchen compared to the vast proportions of the double-height living and dining area. And while the house is mostly open plan, a series of pocket doors provide the flexibility to contain spaces.

Tucked underneath the stairs is a powder room with a vanity clad in travertine pieces that have been cut along the vein. It appears like crystal melting and is always a talking point with guests. The oak staircase twirls to the first floor, sunlight spilling through the stairwell and bouncing around the curved Marmorino plastered void. Entry to the parents' wing is via an arched door, the battened timber flogged with metal chains »

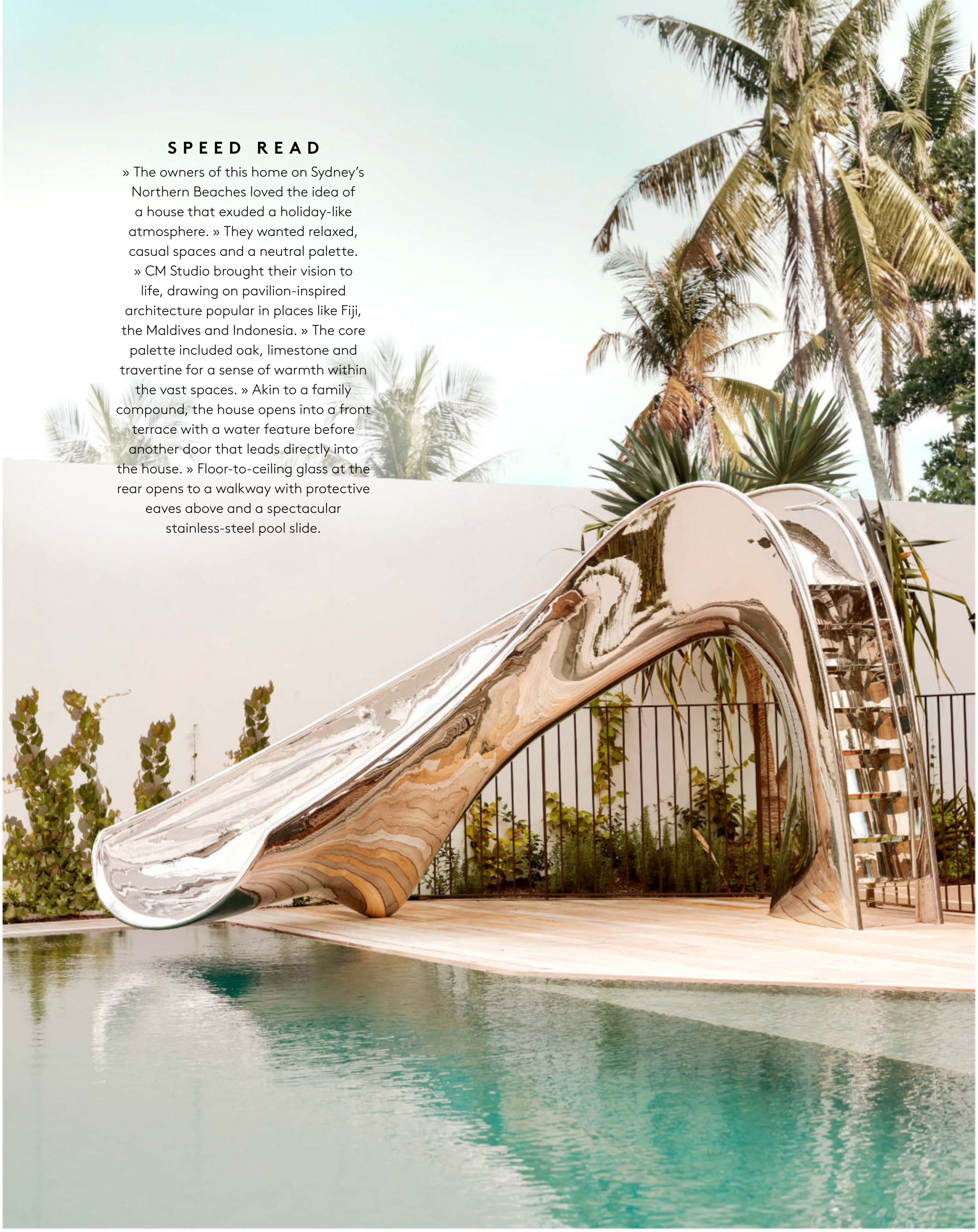
These pages (clockwise from left) The kitchen's Calacatta Oro marble island top is from Anterior XL. Cabinetry by Saltwater Joinery. 'Yokato' tap from Brodware. Miele oven and Sub-Zero fridge from Winnings. Stools by Daniel Boddam. On the island is a 'Rocca' vessel by Katarina Wells from Curatorial+Co. Artwork by Michael Cusack from Olsen Gallery. // 'Møller 77' dining chairs from Great Dane. Artifort 'Suit' chair from Ke-Zu. Microcement balustrade wall by Calce Company. 'Spruce St' spotlights from Dunlin. Pinch 'Gentle' table lamp from Spence & Lyda. Items on table from The DEA Store and District. Ligne Roset 'Apuso' side table at left from Domo. // Above the fireplace is an artwork by Morgan Stokes from Curatorial+Co. 'Hectare' sofa from e9 Design. DePadova 'Silvia' chair from Boffi. De La Espada 'Twenty Five' coffee table from Spence & Lyda.

This page (clockwise from left) The cabinetry in the primary suite is by Saltwater Joinery. Bedcover and bolster cushion from Cultiver. Ligne Roset 'Togo' chair from Domo. 'Belle Meade' sconces from Urban Electric. // Luxurious materials define the ensuite. Vanity top and drawers in 'Travertine Zena' from Artedomus. 'Yokato' tapware from Brodware. Three vessels from The Dea Store: 'Ball' vase by Tetsuya Ozawa and bowl by Toru Hatta. Oval Sandy White terrazzo stone bath from Paradise Living. // Inside the ensuite, with a glimpse of the skylight over the bath. **Opposite page** The stainless-steel pool slide looks like a sculpture. Made by UK design company Splinterworks. Dangar Barin Smith was the firm behind the landscape design.

« for an aged appearance. There are also two bedrooms for the couple's tweens, both with ensuites.

The home's organic colours and jigsaw of oak, limestone and travertine finishes exude a calm and effortless sensibility. "Layering a palette of natural materials created a sense of warmth," says Megan. Exploring ideas around the architecture of traditional island villas, she incorporated multiple pitched roofs and interlocking pavilions into the house, especially when it came to the outdoors. At the back of the home, floor-to-ceiling glass unzips for a seamless transition to the garden, which is lined with hanging lanterns and has a walkway with eaves upheld by posts. Here, there's an undercover barbecue area with built-in seating that sits between the house, and a multi-purpose pavilion used as both a teenage retreat and guesthouse. Amy and Gary wanted the outdoors to be a place their guests and kids could enjoy. The pool has a wild stainless-steel slide, which they kept as a surprise from the kids up to the moment it was craned in. "Most people think it's a sculpture," says Amy. "Until they see someone rocketing down at pace!"

cm-studio.com.au; baugroup.com.au; saltwaterjoinery.com.au



SPEED READ

» The owners of this home on Sydney's Northern Beaches loved the idea of a house that exuded a holiday-like atmosphere. » They wanted relaxed, casual spaces and a neutral palette. » CM Studio brought their vision to life, drawing on pavilion-inspired architecture popular in places like Fiji, the Maldives and Indonesia. » The core palette included oak, limestone and travertine for a sense of warmth within the vast spaces. » Akin to a family compound, the house opens into a front terrace with a water feature before another door that leads directly into the house. » Floor-to-ceiling glass at the rear opens to a walkway with protective eaves above and a spectacular stainless-steel pool slide.

5 SIGNATURE STYLE KEY PIECES

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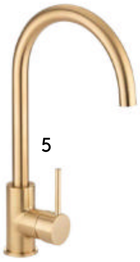

1 Flexform 'Echoes' **chair**, POA, Fanuli. **2** 'Jean De' **side table** in Cocoa Gloss, $450, MCM House. **3** 'Lotus #6' **vase**, $399, Elso Collective. **4** *Verb* **painting** by Morgan Stokes, $6900, Curatorial+Co. **5** 'Elysian' **kitchen mixer** in Brushed Brass, $289.90, ABI Interiors.

BUYERS' MARKET

When it comes to updating your home and lifestyle, only the best will do – so here's a round-up of the latest and greatest products out there.

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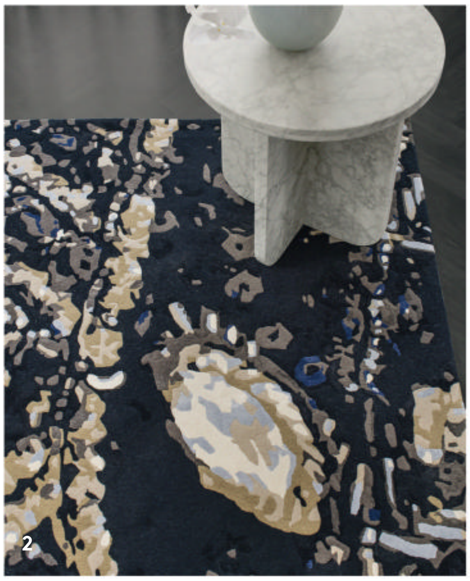
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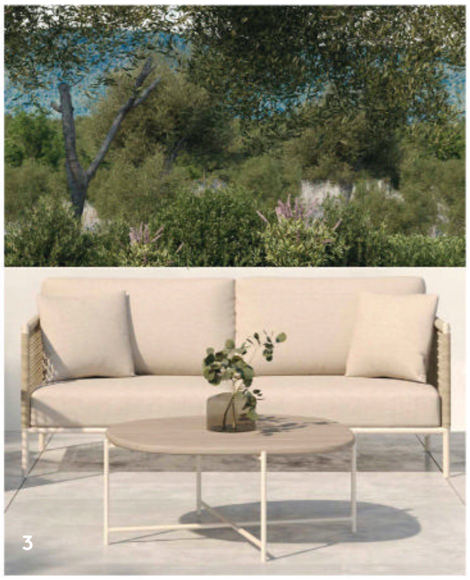
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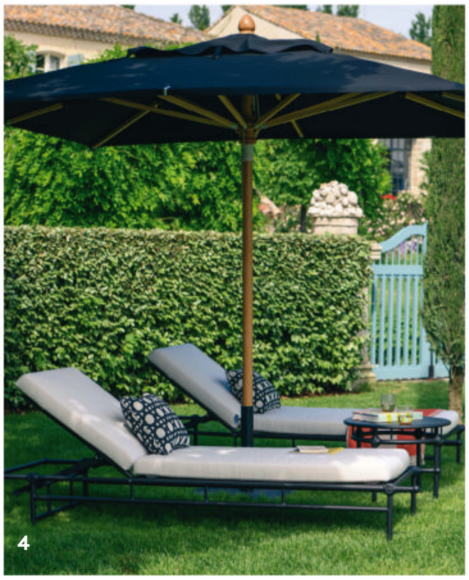
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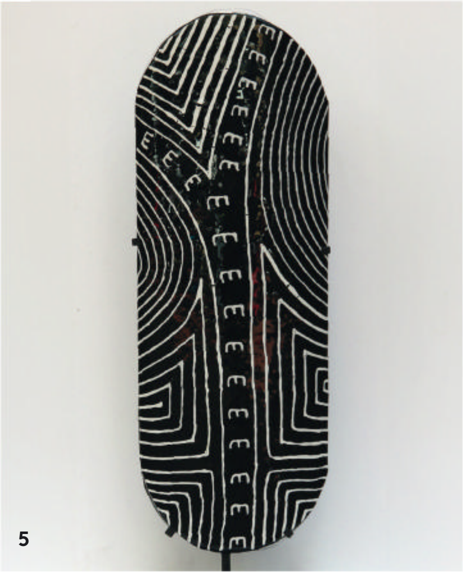
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1 **PRIME EDITION** An exclusive collection of meticulously designed residences and handcrafted penthouses by renowned architect Jolson, immersed in textural landscaping and gardens by Paul Bangay. *primeedition.com.au* 2 **DESIGNER RUGS** Experience the allure of La Nuit. A collaboration with Steven Khalil, this dramatic rug is perfect for adding a touch of evening elegance. RRP $6,490. *designerrugs.com.au* 3 **SISSONNE** Each piece in Sissonne's range is produced from sustainably-sourced materials that must be as durable as they are beautiful. Their European-designed Cottesloe collection exudes modern elegance while being built to withstand the harsh Australian climate. RRP from $2550. *sissonne.au* 4 **CLASSIC WITH A TWIST** The 1800 Sunlounger by Tectona represents the pinnacle of relaxation and comfort. Constructed from powder-coated aluminium in matte black or blue grey, it features the elegance that characterises the entire 1800 collection. RRP $3850. *classicwithatwist.com.au* 5 **ART MOB** Art Mob stocks paint-infused kiln glass created by Arrernte artist Sam Juparulla Wickman. Each shield portrays part of his culture and connection to country. $2400. *artmob.com.au* 6 **ELEMENTS OF BYRON BAY** Celebrate Easter at Elements of Byron, where families can cherish precious moments. Luxurious villas, festive feasts and the iconic Central Lagoon Pool create the perfect beachfront holiday escape. *elementsofbyron.com.au*

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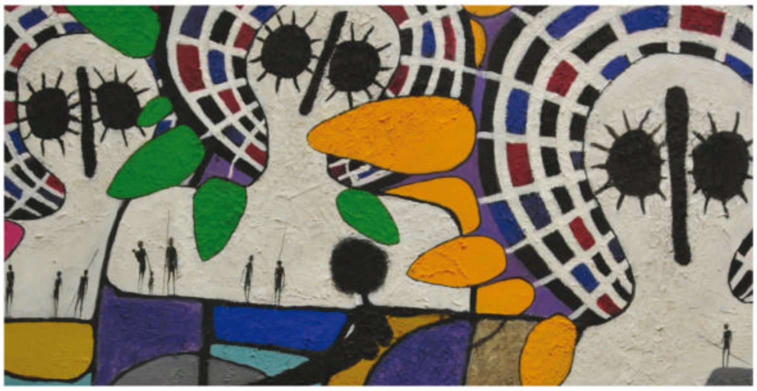

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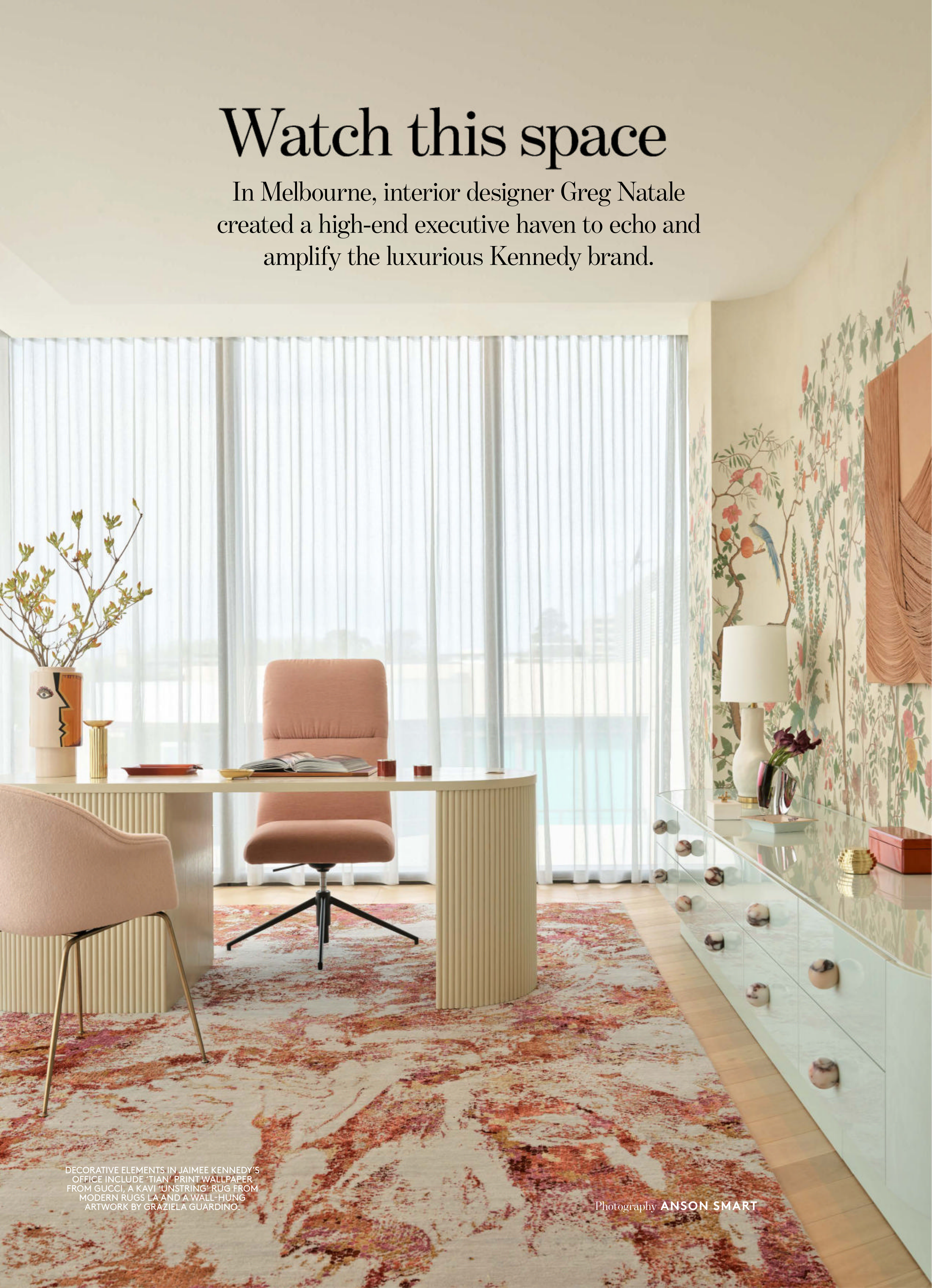
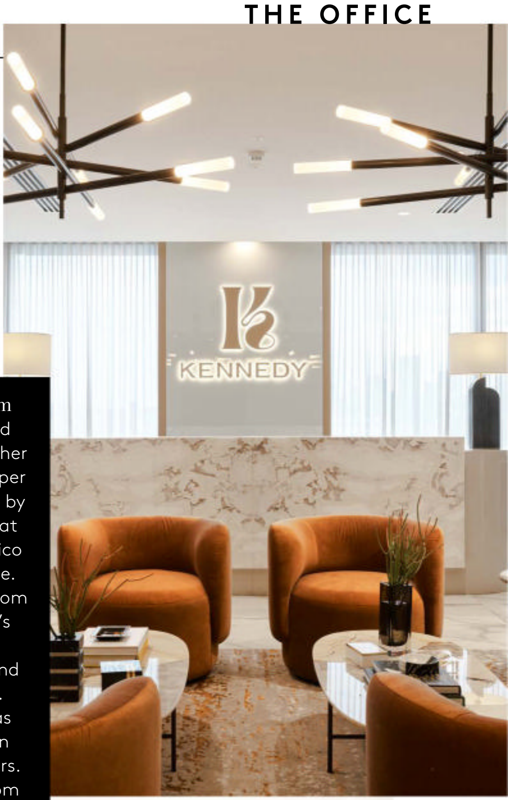
Watch this space

In Melbourne, interior designer Greg Natale created a high-end executive haven to echo and amplify the luxurious Kennedy brand.

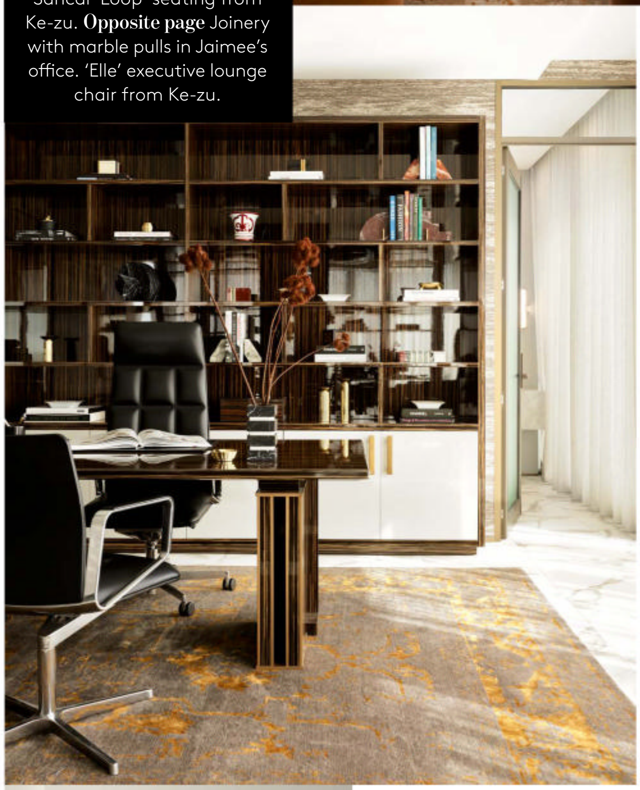


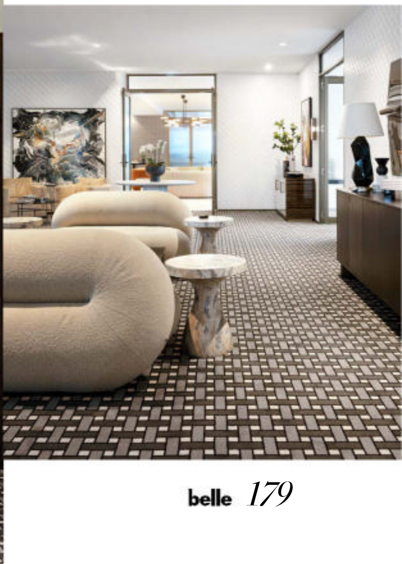
DECORATIVE ELEMENTS IN JAIMEE KENNEDY'S OFFICE INCLUDE 'TIAN' PRINT WALLPAPER FROM GUCCI, A KAVI 'UNSTRING' RUG FROM MODERN RUGS LA AND A WALL-HUNG ARTWORK BY GRAZIELA GUARDINO.

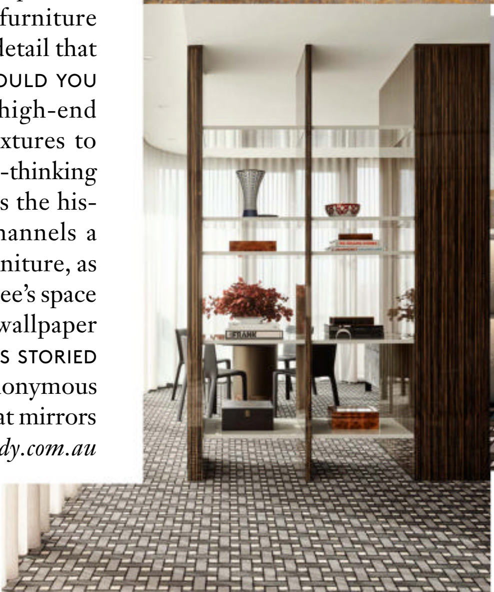
Photography **ANSON SMART**



This page (clockwise from top left) Greg Natale and client Jaimee Kennedy in her boardroom. 'Tian' wallpaper in Multi from Gucci. Table by Grazia & Co. // The desk at reception is Bianco Orobico marble from Avant Stone. Nau 'Mega Tulip' chairs from Cult. // James Kennedy's office is graced with a lacquered timber desk and carpet by Greg Natale. // The executive area has a sideboard in TrueGrain supplied by Briggs Veneers. Sancal 'Loop' seating from Ke-zu. **Opposite page** Joinery with marble pulls in Jaimee's office. 'Elle' executive lounge chair from Ke-zu.







WHO WAS YOUR CLIENT FOR THIS DESIGN PROJECT? Kennedy, a luxury watch and jewellery business founded in 1976. Today, they have boutiques in Melbourne, Sydney and Perth, and are official retailers for prestigious luxury labels, including, but not limited to, Rolex, Patek Philippe, Graff and Mikimoto. James Kennedy, CEO of Kennedy, and his wife Jaimee, the creative director for the brand, invited us to design the interiors for their head office in Melbourne. WHAT DID THE SPACE OFFER YOU AND HOW DID YOU APPROACH IT? The office occupies the entire fifth level of a prestigious new building in Melbourne's exclusive suburb of Toorak, chosen for its prime location and alignment with Kennedy's commitment to catering for a high-end lifestyle. The alterations involved a comprehensive fit-out of the entire floor to reflect the brand's identity and functional needs. The design is divided between an executive side, a centrally located reception area featuring comfortable seating, and dedicated his-and-her offices and boardrooms. In both, high-gloss custom joinery fits seamlessly into the architecture, adding an extra touch of bespoke luxury. High-quality materials, luxurious finishes and tailored design elements ensure the office embodies the Kennedy ethos while providing an inspiring and efficient workspace. WERE THERE ANY SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS? To offer a high-end professional experience to their clients, it was important that the Kennedy office had an executive suite. We designated an entire side to accommodating a spacious and elegant area for meetings, complete with sophisticated finishes, tailored design elements and a curated mix of designer and custom furniture. In the executive area and main reception, a seating arrangement of modern, softly contoured furniture offers an inviting warmth, reflecting the attention to detail that defines the ultimate in customer service. HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE THE COMPLETED SPACE? It's a testament to high-end design. We layered beautiful materials with fine textures to achieve a space that embodies the heritage and forward-thinking nature of the Kennedy brand. My favourite feature is the his-and-hers offices and boardrooms. James's office channels a *Mad Men* look, with glossy joinery and masculine furniture, as does his boardroom, which features a custom bar. Jaimee's space is softer and more feminine, with Gucci botanical wallpaper and spring colours. HOW DOES THE OFFICE REFLECT ITS STORIED BRAND? The executive suite reflects the exclusivity synonymous with the Kennedy brand, providing an environment that mirrors the quality of their product. *gregnatale.com.au; kennedy.com.au*

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